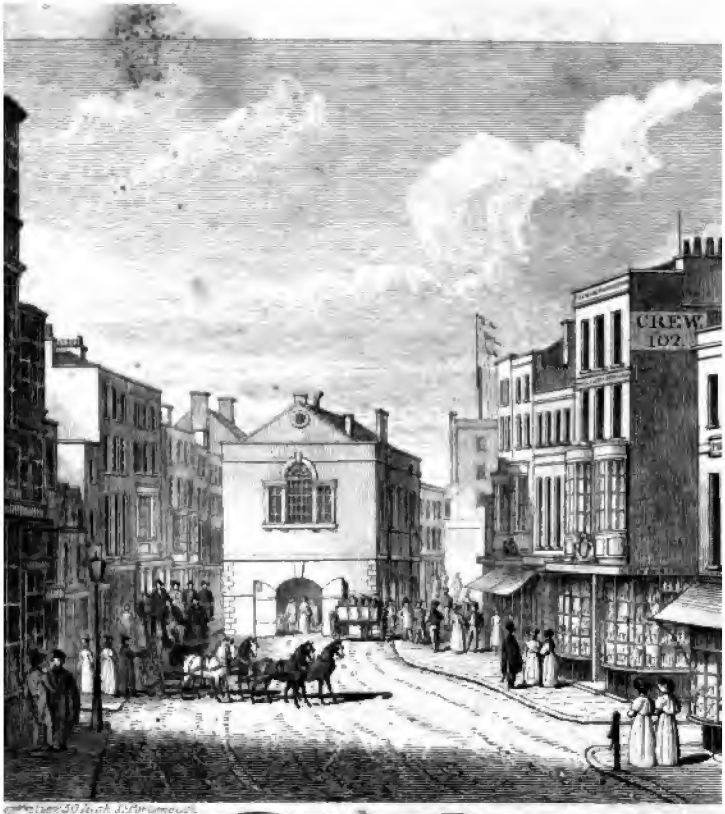

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CHRONICLES OF PORTSMOUTH.

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LONDON:
LUPTON RELFE, 13, CORNHILL.
1828.

PREFACE.

The very gratifying and truly flattering manner in which our "circular" for the publication of the following work has been received, the condescension of the Royal Personages who have graciously honoured it with their patronage, the kindness of the nobility of the neighbourhood, the members of Parliament for the county and borough, the right worshipful the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of the town, the magistrates for the southern division of Hants, the military and naval officers of the port and garrison, the principal officers of his Majesty's dock, ordnance, victualling, customs, and hospital departments, the very Reverend the vicar and clergy of the established religion, the reverend the clergy of the dissenting establishments, the president, officers, and members of the Literary and Philosophical Society, the gentlemen of the legal and medical professions, and the merchants and inhabitants of the united towns, who have so liberally patronized this little volume, are circumstances which can never fail to impress us with the most lively feelings of gratitude, and demand our most sincere and heartfelt acknowledgments.

Neither is it a less gratifying part of our duty to acknowledge the polite attentions we have received, and the many obligations we feel ourselves under to those individuals from whom, in the progress of our researches, we have received much valuable and authentic information. Our thanks are particularly due to the Rev. C. B. Henville, Sir Samuel Bentham, Sir George Garrett, Frederick Madden, Esq. Mr. George Stebbing, N. Nicholas, Esq. Mr. Harrison, Mr. Miller, Lieut. J. H. Davies, and W. Upcott, Esq. of the London Institution, a gentleman whose literary attainments are well known and duly appreciated.

The work aims not at the embellishments of florid description. It has been composed at seasons and under circumstances not favourable to "the finished painting;"—we trust it will, however, be found to contain a true, and so far as we have been enabled to trace, an authentic account of the objects it embraces, and in a manner more detailed than any work of the kind ever before published.

High Street, Portsmouth,
April, 1828.

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Erratum.—Page 45. line 13, for Admiral Duncan, *read* Admiral Vernon.

HISTORY OF PORTSMOUTH.

GENERAL HISTORY.

"The parishes of St. Thomas and St. Mary Colewort, in the town of Portsmouth, are one parish (though anciently two) blended and consolidated, now known by the name, and called the parish of Portsmouth, cannot now be divided, and therefore the whole must be deemed and considered as one parish."

MSS. of an eminent Lawyer.

THE united towns of Portsmouth, Portsea, Gosport, Southsea, and the suburbs, situate at the south-east point of the island of Portsea, seventy-two miles from the metropolis, and enclosed on every side by gigantic fortifications, form, with the noble harbour, the celebrated sea-port, commonly called Portsmouth. The principal streets, which are generally handsome, well-built, and neatly paved, (under the provisions of acts of parliament) run in parallel lines, intersected by others of less note at right angles. In Portsmouth the High-street divides the town into two equal parts. In it are the principal inns, libraries, shops, banks, and residences of the officers of the naval departments. On the north side of High-street is St. Thomas-street, where we find the General Post, the Excise, and Transport offices, with the Lieutenant-governor's residence, and the establishment of the Victualling department. Farther north are Warblington and King streets, which contain nothing remarkable, except the immense stores of the Victualling department. Penny-street is towards the south; in it are the gaol, some large barracks, and various mercantile establishments; and beyond Penny-street is St. Nicholas-street, containing immense barracks for soldiers. St. Mary-

street is the principal cross street, and the great thoroughfare to Portsea. In a line with it are White Horse-street and Barrack-street (formerly Peacock-lane). A second range of cross-streets is towards the centre of the town, and the principal carriage-road to Portsea; viz. Lombard-street, Red Lion-lane, Pembroke-street (formerly Fighting-cock-lane, and more anciently Genmell-street,) and Green-row, which last is the principal foot-path to Southsea through the Spur-gate. A third cross-street, called Oyster-street, passes from the Quay-gate to the Grand Parade, a large square space, which communicates with the Ramparts. From the lower end of High-street (where it passes King James's-gate), and in a line with it, is Broad-street passing down to the water's edge, and forming a kind of island or suburb, surrounded by a lake or camber: it is broad and well paved, containing many very extensive mercantile establishments, the Custom-house, and numerous shops, inns, &c. On one side is an open space called Bath-square, and several streets of lesser note.—About sixty years ago there were a number of small houses in the centre of Broad-street, called Fisherman's-row, about one hundred and fifty feet in length, and situated nearly opposite to what is now the Blue Post hotel. A stake with a large iron ring was placed in the ground at one end of this row, at which it was customary on every Shrove Tuesday to bait a bull. This barbarous custom has been discontinued for some years.

At the lower end of High-street is the usual place for embarkation. The ferry from Portsmouth to Gosport is regulated by act of parliament, proper fares according to the state of the weather being affixed. It is better to take a boat at a trifling expense, and thus avoid trouble, importunity, and delay: the boats are excellent and the seamen very expert, and are to be obtained here and at the Portsea Hard for all places within the harbour, and at the Sally Port for Spithead, Isle of Wight, &c. Packets, steam-vessels, &c. are also constantly sailing for the different ports in the neighbourhood, information respecting which can be obtained at the different offices and at the hotels in the High-street. The fare for each person from Portsmouth or Portsea to Gosport is one

penny, or in foul weather threepence, which is shown by a blue flag hoisted on Gosport market-house. A single wherry sixpence, in foul weather one shilling.

Gosport is an ancient borough and market-town, consisting of three principal streets,—High-street, North and South streets, which intersect the place, and are crossed by others of lesser note. Towards the north is a large square, open to the sea, called Cold Harbour. Within the fortifications are several vacant fields and closes, and on the outside extensive suburbs. In the reign of Henry the Eighth it was merely a village inhabited by fishermen.

Portsea, situate north of Portsmouth, is very extensive, and has arisen altogether within the last hundred and thirty years, there being in 1700 only one hovel on a large common. On the edge of the harbour is a range of houses called the Hard, formerly the old buildings, the principal road to the Dock-yard. The town is divided by a very long street, commenced in the reign of Anne, called Queen-street, extending from the Dock to the Lion-gate, from which several pass to the Old Ropewalk in right angles, viz. Union, Bishop, and Hanover-streets, White's-row, and College-street, through the medium of Hawke and Havant-streets. There is also a very large space of ground called St. George's-square, communicating with Queen-street by means of St. James's-street, and at the farther extremity with the road leading to Portsmouth along the edge of the moat. On the right-hand side of Queen-street is another part of Portsea, very extensive; consisting of many streets, known by the names of Daniel, Cross, North, Prince George's, King, and Cumberland, with Chapel and Marlborough rows, consisting principally of private houses, and Frederick-street, narrow but of considerable length, leading to the water's edge.

"1680, Theophilus Curtis, Esq. mayor of Portesmuth, and the aldermen and burgesses, demise and bequeath to Thomas Burt and W. Cleverly, for nine hundred years, at a yearly rent of ten shillings and one fat capon, a swamp or piece of waste land, the most part whereof is sometime overflown with sea-water." On this now stands Butcher-street.—1770, part of St. George's-square was

a piece of waste land belonging to the corporation, celebrated for beds of chamomile flowers.

Beyond the Portsea Lines extends a very large suburb, inhabited principally by the artificers of the Dock, and through which passes the London road. It extends a long distance in every direction, and is rapidly increasing. It is called Halfway Houses and Mile End. In one part of it is the basin of the canal. The buildings extend towards the Esplanade and Glacis of Portsmouth, till it joins what is now called Southsea. Twenty-five years since the whole site of Southsea was occupied by fields and gardens; there was but one house (the late Mr. Willson's) and a cottage or barn called the Wheelbarrow Castle tavern. In the situation of the King's and Jubilee terraces, pasture lands; where now stand Hampshire and Landport terraces, a long rope-walk, with a very high bank on each side; and a large pond in the angle, where is now Landport-street. The first houses built were on the left-hand side of Hambrook-row, and were thought quite magnificent: then followed Southsea-place and Bath-buildings; and Thomas Croxton, Esq. having purchased some large fields from the late Sir John Carter, sold it off to speculators, and King's-terrace was commenced, the foundation of the first house in the centre being laid by John Williams, Esq. Comptroller of H.M. Customs at this port. This was soon followed by the Bush hotel, erected in a large market-garden; and the different streets and terraces rose in rapid succession. King's-terrace was not finished for many years, and Jubilee-terrace in 1827; and from the great increase of visitors yearly, the demand for houses has been so great that it now assumes the appearance of a large town, and is spreading fast. King's-terrace is an elegant and uniform range of buildings; in a niche over the centre is a statue of George III. in his coronation robes, finely executed by Mr. Hellyer, of H. M. Dock-yard, erected in commemoration of the Jubilee, when his late Majesty entered the 50th year of his reign:

The Inscription.

"GEORGIO III. ANNOS QUINQUAGINTA REGNANTI
HARUM ÆDIUM CONDITORES
HANC STATUAM POSUERE 1809."

Extending to the right, are the lengthened terraces of Landport and Hampshire; the former having a highly picturesque appearance, from the lofty trees and handsome shrubberies before many of the buildings, whilst on the left are the ranges called Bellevue and Jubilee terraces, which the draining of the morass has much improved: the property now presenting a fine piece of meadow-land. The principal streets are Wish-street (formerly Wish-lane), Great Southsea-street, Park-lane, and Elm-grove, in which latter are many fine suburban residences and villas erected and erecting on the site of some very extensive market-gardens, and gradually spreading to Southsea-common. Opposite the Bush hotel, another road leads to a populous part of the suburbs, named Summer's-town, Allen's-field, the Crescent, &c. all in a state of advancement to form a large town. Somerset-place exhibits some noble houses; and as the fields opposite, and another portion of large extent, are advertised for building-sites, the whole will in a few years become consolidated. We may add, that the immense space of ground, formerly known as the Common-field, containing some hundred acres, the closes anciently appertaining to the Priory of Domus Dei, and many portions of collegiate lands, extending to the hamlets of Buckland, Kingstone, and Fratton, are now "the busy haunts of men." Within these ten years, even these hamlets have become one; and, for an extent of upwards of two miles on the London road, the increasing suburbs spread through Kingstone Cross and towards the sea at Stamshaw, formerly quite a retired spot. At a short distance is Northend, and Stubbington, formerly Stobiton, with the villages of Hilsea, Copner, and Milton; all of which contain many elegant houses, the seats of the resident gentry.

The Island of Portsea contains two parishes, Portsmouth and Portsea (the latter of immense extent), and some extra-parochial land towards the east, mostly in the possession of Government; and on the Gosport side are the parishes of Alverstoke and Rowner, also very extensive. It is, we believe, proposed, if possible, to divide the parish of Portsea into several smaller ones (for ecclesiastical purposes only): its division for general purposes would be a great boon to the inhabitants, it is so

overgrown and unwieldy. The population is as follows: —In the parishes of Portsmouth, Portsea, and Alverstoke, including Gosport, 55,000 inhabitants. Census 1821: Portsmouth, houses, 1196; uninhabited, 96; male inhabitants, 2881; females, 4388; total, 7269. Portsea, houses inhabited, 7527; uninhabited, 532; building, 17; male inhabitants, 17,544; females, 20,835; total, 38,370. Gosport and Alverstoke, houses inhabited, 2078; uninhabited, 452; building, 6; male inhabitants, 4114; females, 6228; total, 10,342.

On the Gosport side, without the Fortifications, the country assumes a most picturesque and beautiful appearance. The villages of Forton, on the London road; Bury, with its lofty trees; Stoke, and its ancient church; and the new villas of Anglesea Ville, on the edge of Stoke Common, present objects of high interest; and the land being intersected by lakes in all directions, presents a much more diversified appearance than on the Portsea side: we shall revert to these villages more particularly hereafter, when describing the different public departments and institutions. Portsmouth was paved by act of parliament passed in 1763: the work was completed in 1773, at an expense of 8886*l.* 8*s.* Subsequent acts invest the commissioners with power to light and watch the town: the expenses are defrayed by three rates annually of threepence in the pound on the estimated value of houses and lands. The first act for paving Portsea (then described as Portsmouth Common) was passed in the fourth year of the reign of George the Third; a second act in 1792; and on the 5th of May, 1826, a third was passed for improving the roadway, and lighting the streets with gas or oil. Gosport is also neatly paved throughout, as are the suburbs in all directions. The towns of Portsea, Portsmouth, and the Half-way houses, are brilliantly lighted with coal gas; and the whole is supplied with excellent water.

The Markets in the town are plentifully supplied with every kind of necessary; and the people from the surrounding country visit it three times a week,—viz. Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, which are the regular market-days, and furnish, more particularly, an abundance of all kinds of the finest fruit. The Fish-market cannot boast of a

good supply of fish, the greater part being sent from London. Crabs, lobsters, crayfish, the fine Isle of Wight prawns, and celebrated Emsworth oysters, are (during season) in abundance, and unquestionably the finest in the kingdom. Of vegetable productions there is an ample supply; and the broccoli, which is remarkable both for its uncommon size and richness of flavour, is sent to and much esteemed in every part of the country. The Green-market was, a few years since, held on stalls placed along the pavement in front of the houses, and the Fish-market on what was called the Fish-stone; being a large and broad stone wall extending nearly across the street opposite Church-lane. This was removed when the town was paved. At Portsea the Fish-market is on the Hard, near the entrance to the dock; and the town and immense suburbs are plentifully supplied with shops of every description. There is, however, no regular market-place:—the magistrates, in 1802, offered St. George's-square for this purpose, but the subscription failed.

At Gosport the original market-place, of which we possess an accurate painting, was in the centre of the High-street, a very ruinous structure of wood; above were two small rooms (in which the lord of the manor held his courts leet and baronial), and an octagonal tower with a clock. In a niche at the end was a gilded statue of lead of William the Third in the Roman costume, by Sir R. Chenèe. "1802, Nov. 15. The Bishop of Winchester proprietor of the market-place and tolls, of which, under the land-tax redemption acts, a sale of the perpetuity might be effected: a tontine was proposed in shares of twenty-five pounds each, to build a new one." This scheme did not succeed; but afterwards, an act of parliament being gained, with the concurrence of the Bishop, in the 51st year of George the Third, a new market was erected by shares on the beach; it is a fine square building of white brick, with arched windows, and bonding vaults below; and in the upper story, a large room called the Court-room, in which the Bishop of Winchester holds his manorial court. The market, instead of being held in, is held around it. On a flag-staff above this building, the flags by which the fares of the ferry are regulated are hoisted.

The market-days in Portsmouth and Gosport are Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, in every week.

Free Mart fair, granted to be held for fifteen days by Richard the First, in 1194—"A free mart for all people, natives, or foreigners, to enter the kingdom, be exempt from duties, impositions, or tolls, not to be arrested for debt, or oppressed in any way." The *cour de pied poudre*, vulgò *pie powder*, has been discontinued many years. A large open hand, bearing the crest of the borough (expressive of the welcome and good fellowship strangers were and still are to receive), is annually suspended from the old Town-hall. In the time of the late war, the fair extended from King James's-gate to the Lieutenant-Governor's house in St. Thomas's-street, being the whole length of the High-street. During the paving of the town it was held in St. Thomas's-street; and during the American war it consisted of merely a few stalls on each side the High-street.

"In all the charters the fair is directed to be held on the festival of St. Peter ad Vincula, viz. the 1st of August in the Roman Catholic calendar; but in the Protestant calendar, the Saint's day is on the 29th of June, and early records show the mart to have commenced on that day, till 1752. But it appears, some persons tenaciously kept a fair on the 1st of August (the Catholic saint day), until, by the charter of Charles the First, it was ordered, 'that a certain faire, held on the 1st of August, be discontinued: and the reason why it is not held on the 29th of June (the Protestant saint day), is in conformity with the act 24 Geo. II. for altering the stile, which enacts that all fairs, &c. shall be holden and kept eleven days later than the same would have happened, according to the nominal days of the said new computation of time.' Hence the fair begins on the 10th of July, being eleven days later than St. Peter's day of new stile, and continues fourteen days, to the great annoyance of every peaceable-disposed person in Portsmouth."*—Free Mart is followed by Portsdown fair, for three days, held on the summit of the hill, but originally near the village of Cosham. It is a very pleasant fair,

* Portsmouth Scientific Register.

and very much frequented, on account of the beauty of the scenery.—There are two fairs at Gosport, of trifling extent, viz. on May 4, and October 10. The act of parliament passed for erecting and establishing the tolls of the new market, in 1811, recognized the ancient fairs, which were granted by the then lord of the manor, Henry de Blois, Bishop of Winchester, in 1158, in consideration of kindness shown to his brother, King Stephen, who, in a voyage from Normandy, landed here after a storm. The Bishop called the village God's Port, bestowed on it the fairs above mentioned, and three market-days in each week. Until the grant was discovered amongst the archives of the See of Winchester, it was supposed the village derived its name from the great quantity of goss, or gorze (provincial—furze) growing near it.

The Bishop of Winchester claims jurisdiction over the town, borough, and parish of Gosport, over the sea-shore, between high and low water mark, and over so much of the sea as a man can ride into on a white horse, at the time of low-water mark, and overreach with a lance.* "The Bishop holds Alwarestoke (Alverstoke). It was always abbey land. In the time of Edward the Confessor it was assessed at six pounds. A knight held half a hide. Sawinus held it, but was not allowed to remove anywhere. It is worth twenty-five shillings."†—"The Town of Portesmuth standith in the corner of an Isle, and is in lenght IV miles, and a 3 miles in bredth. This Isle berith good corn and grasse. The ground is made an Isle by this meene: There brikith out an arme of the meyn Haven about a 3 miles above Portesmuth, and goith up a 2 miles or more by marisch ground to a place caullid Porte bridge, 2 miles from Portesmuth. Then brikith there out another creke out of the mayn se or avant haven, and goith up also to Porte bridge, and there is the ground insulatid. The ground within the Isle of Portesmuth is partely inclosid, frutefull of corn, and hath sum wood. From Portesmuth Town to Porte bridge, of 2 arches of stone, ij miles. The bridge is the limes of the Isle. And heere I markid one arme of salte water ebbing and flowing that cummith out of Portesmuth Haven up by

* Manorial tradition. † Doomsday Book.

marsch ground into Porte bridge and an other creke from the mayn se to the same bridge. And these 2 crekes metting at the bridge make the Isle of Portesmuth." *

"The Island of Portsea is about sixteen miles in circumference, and the ride round it affords one of the most delightful excursions that can possibly be conceived. During the Heptarchy it was a royal demesne, but alienated in the reign of Edgar, by Athelfleda, his Queen, bestowing it as an addition to the new minster at Winchester, which still retains a large portion of it as collegiate land. It consists of two parishes, viz. that of Portsmouth and Portsea, the extra-parochial land of the Salterns and Hilsea; but this latter, forming a part of the parish of Wymering, is not to be considered farther than including it in the aggregate number of acres, amounting to about four thousand three hundred and fifty, of which about three thousand two hundred are arable, four hundred pasture, six hundred and twenty common, and one hundred and thirty acres of waste land belonging to Government.

"Broccoli and cauliflowers here are particularly excellent; and although the seed of these vegetables is frequently sown in other parts, yet it has never been known to produce any in such perfection as in the gardens near Portsmouth. The common fields, according to the ancient customs of this borough, are to be driven by the chamberlain immediately after harvest is in. The owner of every horse, who has no right to the common fields, is to pay for each horse the sum of 6s. 8d. for every cow 3s. 4d. and for every sheep or pig 4d. And for every five acres of land any person has in the common fields, he is entitled to keep one horse, or two cows, or twenty sheep or pigs. Every burgess, belonging to this corporation, has a right to feed one horse in the common fields during the time they remain open; and the corporation were entitled formerly to have from the respective owners the sum of threepence an acre for every acre of land in the common fields, which has been many years since done away with." The common fields here alluded to are now nearly covered by the suburbs of Portsea.

* Leland Itin.

Southsea Common presents a vast plain. It was originally manorial land, and of very large dimensions. It was purchased by Government about fifty years ago, and enclosed, portions of it being retained by the occupants of the surrounding lands. It is now used as a parade ground. It was, within these few years, covered with furze. It has for ages been a place for the encampment of troops. In 1220, the finest army England ever saw lay encamped here, under Hubert de Burgh. 1386, twenty-eight thousand men lay here for some months, under the command of the Duke of Lancaster. 1475, May 26, the whole army of England reviewed on Southsea Common, by King Edward the Fourth. Henry the Eighth encamped his forces beyond Southsea Castle in the thirty-sixth year of his reign, and commanded them in person. 1628, the armament against Rochelle being appointed to rendezvous at Portsmouth, the troops lay in camps on the Common south of the town. 1628, Felton, the assassin, gibbeted on the beach—a post driven full of nails, a short distance from the Clarence rooms, marks the spot. During the last century, the Duke of Richmond formed a large camp beyond the Castle; and another, of immense bodies of troops, in 1801. Traces of these are still discernible, in the circular rings and partial pavements in various parts of the Common. During the last war, Government erected four large earthen batteries, at regular distances, along the shore; they are now removed. The brick building near the Castle is the Fire-barn, for the manufacture of combustible articles used by the Ordnance; and in the small battery near the Castle, built to represent part of a ship, the marine artillery practise the use of cannon. The marsh land was drained by the late Mr. Webb. It had been, from time immemorial, a large sheet of water, abounding in the winter with wild fowl. In a field near the windmill is a large stone, marking the situation of the ancient landmark; on it is inscribed, G. R. 1774. The lofty masts on the Beach and Common are for the guidance of shipping. From the Clarence rooms to the houses at Southsea extended an immense morass, cut into trenches; in some places very deep, and covered with stagnant water. It has lately been drained, in a degree levelled, and

converted into a green sward. Portsea was originally called Portsmouth Common, being erected on the waste lands of the corporation. Milton, or Middleton Common, and Welder Heath, originally very large, have been enclosed, by acts of parliament. There is also much waste land surrounding Cumberland Fort. At Tangier, on the eastern side of the harbour, are the ancient Salt-works, mentioned as existing in the time of Edward the Confessor, and rated in Doomsday Book.

A Canal has been formed across the Island, commencing from a lock in Langstone haven (where is also a large steam-engine for filling it with salt water), and terminating in a basin at Halfway Houses. It was opened with much formality a few years ago; a collier, several barges, and a steam-vessel, passing along it. From various circumstances, it is however now in disuse; though, during the period of its existence, the mercantile conveniences were of the greatest utility to the towns and neighbourhood.

Of the geology of the island of Portsea and the environs, we published a short account some years since, which has served as a basis for much which has been spoken of since. Under Portsmouth, and in the direction of Southsea Common, the stratum is generally gravel from twelve to twenty feet thick, interspersed with masses of Stamshaw clay. The dip of the gravel is towards the south; and it becomes thicker as it approaches the sea, as has been exemplified in the formation of the water trenches in the moats of the garrison. The gravel rests on a bed of dark blue London clay, containing abundance of fossil shells, and large quantities of iron pyrites; this bed of clay is from twenty to two hundred feet in depth, and the iron pyrites occurs in veins of blue mineral sand six inches thick. In these veins water of a bad taste, and often disagreeable odour, is sometimes found, of which some wells at Southsea present examples; while others afford water of most excellent quality. (There are two wells of extraordinary purity attached to the residence of G. Soaper, Esq. in Elm Grove; of this water we made a chemical analysis two years since.) In some parts of the island the blue clay mounts to the surface, along the south-eastern shore, ("having a rise of

three feet per mile from east to west,"*) at a short distance northward of the great Salterns; and on the Gosport side, at Stubbington and Hill Head, where fossils are found in abundance. The shores of the island have been materially altered by the encroachments of the sea on the south-eastern side, many acres having disappeared, and the roots and trunks of trees, (lately erroneously described as a peat bog,) which, in the remembrance of persons now living, grew on a common, being now found below the low-water mark, and only to be seen at the lowest tides, about one hundred yards to the westward of Lumps Fort. These roots abound with fine specimens of the Pholas dactylus. At Milton, under the engine-house of the canal, we observed, during the formation of the tunnel, (the stratification being too loose to admit of the operation of mining,) the following particulars:—Vegetable mould, to the depth of two feet; gravel, four feet; bright yellow sand, interspersed with masses of loose sandstone, which hardened on exposure from evaporation, and thereby lost much of its original beautiful sparkling appearance, for the depth of twenty feet; next, blue mineral sand, for three feet, resting on the blue clay which dips under Langston Harbour. In most parts of the island the blue clay rests on a bed of dark brown water-worn pebbles, and this again on a stratum of fine white silver sand, loose in its texture, containing abundance of excellent water, and of an unknown depth, the rod of the miner penetrating readily thirty and forty feet without the least obstruction: this is proved in the Dock Well (which see). The same sand was discovered in a well at Mr. Knott's brewery, at the lower end of Broad-street, Portsmouth; and in cutting through the blue clay at fifty feet below the surface, the miners found an anchor, the stock of which was nearly decayed; the metal weighing twelve or fourteen pounds. This sand does not invariably contain water (see Woevil Brewery). Under the Beneficial Hall at Portsea, before reaching the sand, we find a fine vein of red ochre, eight inches thick. Most of the eminences are formed by the white sand rising through the clay, and lying from twenty to

* H. Davies.

thirty feet in thickness: this is the case at Highland Cottage, near Eastney, the highest part of the island, and a most excellent site for a Semaphore from its commanding situation. In various instances this sand forms underlays, dipping towards the north-east, in a waving direction; on one side of St. Paul's Church, in digging the foundation, this sand was found at the depth of a few inches, and at the other not for nine feet. A like circumstance occurs under the Gas works, descending in a zig-zag manner under the Unicorn-gate, across the moat to the outer wall, where it sinks. The well-known Stamshaw clay occurs on the northern side of the island, near Tipner, between high and low-water mark, in many places three hundred feet thick, resting on chalk. It passes towards the east, crossing the island, appearing at Hilsea and the Salterns, and dipping under Langston Harbour rises in Hayling Island, dips again under Chichester Harbour, and terminates near Emsworth. It sometimes appears in detached masses along the line of the Canal, near where the revolving bridges are situate. In these cases the clay does not appear to dip, but lies in horizontal beds; but wherever it lies on black pebble stones, it is known to dip and join the original beds in their course. In the places where the original morass was at Southsea, and which, previous to the formation of the Portsmouth fortifications, was of great extent, occur deep beds of dark peaty matter: this is also the case of Webb's marshes, as proved by late borings: on account of the projected ship-canal and docks. From a variety of observations, we think these peaty bogs are fruitful sources of *malaria*, more especially the latter. Five miles from Portsmouth, on the London road, is Portsdown Hill, part of the great Hampshire chalk range. The dip of the strata is about seven degrees towards the north, and the depth of the cliff about four hundred and thirty feet; at low water the termination of the chalk bed can be seen sixteen feet under water, half a mile south of Portchester Castle. In the inn at the top of the hill is a draw-well, excavated in the chalk, three hundred and seventy-five feet deep. At the Paul's Grove Chalk-pit, at the head of Portsmouth Harbour, may be observed quadrangular blocks of chalk four feet thick, and twenty in length;

which, however, break into fragments from the action of the air; the nodules of flint are small and few, and in the horizontal strata the flint is oblate. The chalk is traversed by oblate veins. In lowering the London road a few years since, a variety of fossils were obtained, and deposited in the Portsmouth Museum by our esteemed friend Mr. W. Lang. Opposite the George inn, a tumulus was opened, and the skeletons of sixteen men were dug up, enclosed in the chalk, eighteen inches deep, with the feet towards the east. The bones were in high preservation, and in the skull of one was found inserted the iron head of a spear. We published in London an account of this discovery.

The views from the summit of Portsdown are magnificent in the highest possible degree; no language can do them justice. At the eastern end is a Semaphore; and at the western, a lofty Pillar, erected by subscription of the British Navy, and bearing the following inscriptions, on either side:—

Consecrated
To the memory of
LORD VISCOUNT NELSON
By the zealous attachment of
All those who fought at
Trafalgar,
To perpetuate his Triumph
And their regret,
MDCCCV.

The
British Fleet
Consisted of
Twenty-seven Ships
Of the Line;
Of France and Spain
Thirty-three,
Nineteen of which were
Taken or destroyed.

Below the hill are the villages of Portchester (with its ancient Castle), Paul's Grove, and Wymering, &c. with its ancient church; Cosham, mentioned in Doomsday Book; Farlington with its church, and Bedhampton. Through these the great post-roads pass, and afford pleasant rides from Portsmouth. On the opposite side of the hill are Purbrook, Stakes, Widley, Southwick, and the forest of Bere, with the parks of the nobility and gentry, all of which abound with objects of high interest.

The only part of the towns in which we may look for architectural antiquities is Portsmouth; and here, for the sake of preservation, we shall record a few miscellaneous observations, which could not aptly be introduced under any distinct head.

May 1, 1661. "Set forth again from Petersfield, and

so to Portsmouth; a very pleasant and strong place: and we lay at the Redd Lyon, where Hasilrigge and Scott and Walton did hold their council when they were here against Lambert and the Committee of Safety." The inn here spoken of by Mr. Pepys, was on the site of the house No. 91 in the High-street. It was demolished in 1800 by Mr. Way, the licence being removed to the present inn behind. In front, towards the High-street, was a large window, supported by a porch and pillars, projecting into the street. The long range of buildings forming one side of Church-lane (on the walls of which may still be seen the date, two hundred years since) formed the stables of the ancient inn.

The George inn was originally a thatched house, of small size, called the Waggon and Lamb, having in front a stone trough for water; on the right and left were low gavel-fronted houses, sunk below the level of the street, with wooden rails in front, and old-fashioned projecting windows.

The white house three doors above the George, is one of the most ancient in the town, and was formerly of great extent, being now divided into four large houses. In one of the rooms is an ornamental ceiling, in which the English arms appear quartered, viz. the arms of the House of Stuart, surrounded by the Garter; and in the angles of the compartments, 1st, a lion rampant; 2d, a griffin; 3d, a small lion; 4th, a fleur de lis. These are repeated four times, varying in size. During some repairs several coins of Elizabeth were found.

The Three Tuns public-house is also very ancient; it is remarkable as being the place in which the delegates met during the mutiny, and kept Lord Howe and attendants waiting on the staircase while they deliberated on his proposals.

In Lombard-street is an ancient edifice, erected on the 24th of October, 1637, in the 13th year of Charles I. in the mayoralty of Thomas Hedger. Its low and small windows, and other peculiarities, might interest the lover of this species of antique architecture.

On this spot, and in the house of Owen Totty (or Tottie) on the north side of it, the plague, or some infectious disorder, which ravaged the town in the reign of

Elizabeth, developed itself with frightful energy. A tale founded on it is published in the Portsmouth Register.

The Vicarage lands reach from St. Thomas-street to the centre of the gateway on the south of this edifice; and in the year 1694, were closes of garden land, let at twenty and twenty-five shillings per annum, and first let on lease for twenty-one years by Thomas Heather, Vicar.*

Most of the houses in the town were originally low and gavel-fronted, and termed Garrison houses, being sunk below the surface, on account of the Fortifications; within these few years, however, a great number have yielded to modern improvement, more especially in the High-street.

The scene of the atrocious murder of the Duke of Buckingham was, at the time, a large inn, called the Spotted Dog. The premises are at present No. 10 in the High-street. The Duke was stabbed over the shoulder with a knife; and his only exclamation was, "The villain has killed me." Felton, when taken into custody, said, "I know that he is dead, for I had the force of forty men when I struck the blow." The assassin was hung on Southsea Common; and some remains of his gibbet were visible not many years since. In the part of the house lately demolished, were three ancient paintings on panels, above the carved mantelpiece of the apartment in which the Duke was killed. One represents the arms of the first Charles; a second, Jael with the hammer and nail; the third, the daughter of Herodias, with the head of the Baptist. We rescued the first two from the side of a dog-kennel, in 1827; the third was destroyed by the damp and dirt—*Sic transit gloria mundi!*

In Keppel-row are some of the most ancient edifices of the town; and behind the Round Tower, at the mouth of the Harbour, are a number of very low antique dwellings, formerly used as military barracks.

The house opposite the corner of the Parade was formerly an inn, and the place in which Lord Anson dwelt after his first voyage; it is now occupied by Mr. Price, the bookseller and stationer.

* MS. Letters.

The Market, surmounted by the old Town Hall, is placed, as in many ancient towns, in the middle of the street, obscuring some of the best houses. Leland, in his Itinerary, says: "One Carpenter, a riche man, made of late tyme, in the mydle of the High Streete of the toun, a Toun-house." What the particular shape or form of this edifice was, we have been unable to discover; but in 1736, the present building was erected under the auspices of Mr. Vining, then mayor of this borough, who deposited under the northern corner pier, certain coins, a metallic plate, &c. The edifice consists of a market-place, with arches on the sides and end, a noble hall of fine proportions, with a vaulted ornamental ceiling, fourteen feet high; and at the western end, the Record-room, now a library, and above, several small rooms and stores. The Hall is lighted by a large Venetian window at the end, and five on either side. Above the large entrance is placed an emblazonment of the armorial crest of the Borough, with the date and Mr. Vining's name. The galleries formerly used by the jury, and the seats for the officers of justice, still remain. Above the roof was a small cupola and dome, (in which hung a bell,) but, becoming ruinous, it was, in 1826, taken down. This cupola was quite in unison, and there is much taste and architectural knowledge displayed in the building. It was enlarged and improved in 1796, in the mayoralty of the late John Godwin, Esq. by the erection of a council-chamber, supported by eight Corinthian pillars, forming a portico, which, in any other situation, would prove no small embellishment to the town; at present it only serves to obstruct a street, but for this interruption, as fine as any in the kingdom. Previous to the erection of the last-mentioned room, the ascent to the Hall was by a flight of twelve stone steps, with two smaller ones on each side the cage. The Corinthian pillars formed a small portico on a kind of platform, round which extended an iron rail, while the steps were terminated by a broad stone parapet, with iron lamp-posts at the bottom. From this portico proclamations of importance were read to the public, and under the present one, George the Fourth was proclaimed King.—Since the erection of the new Sessions'-room, in Penny-street,

by permission of the Mayor and Aldermen, the meetings of various public bodies, the Mechanics' Institute, &c. are held in this Hall.

From the northern extremity of this building projected a long range of wooden shambles, with a roof supported by wooden pillars and covered with slate, the rendezvous and receptacle after nightfall of every species of vicious company.—April 3, 1827. At half past one o'clock this day, the magistrates determined that these shambles should be removed forthwith.—April the 9th. Precisely at six o'clock A. M. we witnessed the first blow; the work of demolition continued rapidly, and it was finally removed on Friday the 27th instant. In the space beneath the Hall, Mr. Bubb has erected a number of convenient stalls, &c.

In every work published since 1750 relative to the town, this disgraceful building had been a source of regret. The late General Fisher offered, at the time of the Imperial visit, to remove the whole edifice, including the Town Hall, Market-place, stone work, &c. and new pave the road way to correspond with the other parts of the street, in the short space of one single night, so great an obstruction was it considered. We feel some small share of gratification that our pen should have been instrumental in effecting so desirable an object, by pointing out a few of the nuisances, and instances of immorality to which it gave rise; indeed, it became at last a subject of observation from the pulpit. The best thanks of the inhabitants are due to the worthy Mayor, Daniel Howard, Esq. under whose immediate auspices it has been removed, and who had taken some pains to make himself acquainted with the extent of the nuisance complained of.

St. Paul's School, Southsea.—Several gentlemen residing in the towns and their vicinity, having met at the old Town Hall in Portsmouth, on Sept. 26, 1825, formed themselves into a society for founding and supporting a school; agreed to purchase for 400*l.* a site near St. Paul's Church, Southsea; appointed a committee to superintend a proper building; and drew up resolutions connected with the subject. After a short time, 2300*l.* were raised, by one hundred shares of 23*l.* each. The chaste and elegant school was erected by contract (from

a design of Messrs. Adams and Owen) at a cost of (including the land and furniture) 2205*l.* 17s. 8d. At the first annual meeting, the Rev. James Inman, D. D. was appointed Chairman; J. Slight, Esq. Treasurer; T. Heather, Esq. Secretary; Rev. William Foster, B. A. Trinity College, Cambridge, Head Master; Mr. Welch, B. A. Pembroke College, Cambridge, First Assistant; Mr. Allen, Second Assistant; Monsieur Touloux, French Master; Mr. Stockman, for Drawing. One hundred boys are admitted, at an expense of 9*l.* per annum; and in the Treasurer's accounts for 1827 the following items occur: education, 865*l.* 16s.; transfers, fines, &c. 13*l.*; books, &c. supplied, 94*l.* 18s. 2d. On the whole, it is an establishment of the highest respectability, and bids fair to be a most useful institution to the youth of the towns and surrounding country.

In the year 1732, Dr. Smith, a physician long resident in the town, bequeathed an estate called East Standen Farm, in the Isle of Wight, in trust to the Dean and Chapter of Christ-church, Oxford, for the establishment of a free grammar school in the town, and authorising them to pay salaries of 50*l.* per annum to a master, and 30*l.* to an usher. In the year 1750, the rents having accumulated to a sufficient sum, the trustees purchased the house in Penny-street, for the master to reside in, rent free, and erected the school behind; they have appointed the masters from time to time, and within a few years raised the salaries to 80*l.* for the master, and 60*l.* the assistant; but no person had ever been gratuitously educated in pursuance of the founder's bequest. The farm is now held on lease by the widow of the late Mr. Henry Roach, at the rent of 200*l.* per annum.

Sixteen years since, several public-spirited inhabitants instituted a suit in Chancery to enforce a fulfilment of the founder's intent. The affair was referred to one of the Masters of the Court. The trustees contended that the founder's intention was merely to provide a school and masters; but that, nevertheless, the scholars were to be instructed at their own expense.

Decree of the High Court of Chancery, respecting this institution:—

"That the master shall be required to educate fifty boys,

provided so many shall offer, being the children of resident inhabitants of the Borough of Portsmouth, or the children of persons who were resident inhabitants of the said Borough at the time of the birth of such children, in cases where the parents are dead, being the children of persons professing the Protestant religion, free of expense; and that he shall be at liberty to take into his house, for the purpose of education at the said school, as many boys, to lodge and board at his house, as he shall think fit, and upon such terms as may be agreed upon between him and the parents or guardians of such boys; and also, to take into the said school, for the purpose of education, as many day scholars as he shall think fit, and upon the terms to be agreed upon as aforesaid.

"That the said boys so to be educated gratuitously at the said school, shall be nominated by the Dean and Canons of Christ Church.

"That no boy under the age of seven years shall be admitted as a free scholar into the school, or remain in it after the age of seventeen.

"That all the boys, both free scholars and others, shall be educated in, and taught the elements of, the Greek and Latin languages, and the principles and religion of the Established Church of England.

"That all the lower details, such as the hours of opening and closing the school daily, and the times of the several recesses or holidays, shall be left to the appointment and direction of the master, so that the hours of schooling shall not be fewer than six, and the recesses shall not be more than two in each year,—the one of them commencing on the Friday preceding Christmas, and the other on the Friday preceding the 21st of June in each year, nor for more than one month each; and the holidays shall not be more than one whole day, and the afternoon of one other day in each week.

"That the duty of superintending the said school shall be left to the direction of the Dean and Canons of Christ Church, according to the will of the said testator.

"That the fifty boys first to be appointed free scholars, shall be appointed on or before the 1st day of January, 1823; and that all vacancies which shall afterwards happen by death or otherwise, among the said boys so ap-

pointed, shall be filled up by other boys, to be appointed in like manner, once in each and every year, that is to say, on some day in the first week in the month of January in each and every year, notice being first given thereof—such notice to be in writing, and to specify the number of vacancies to be filled up, and fixed on the doors of the several parish churches within the Borough of Portsmouth, for the space of fourteen days at the least before the day to be fixed for that purpose.

"That two forms of prayer shall be prepared and approved by the Dean and Canons, the one to be read on the first coming into the school in the morning, and the other on leaving the school in the evening, by one of the free scholars, to be appointed by the master for that purpose; and that the master and usher, or one of them, be present at the reading thereof.

"That all the boys educated at the said school (not day-scholars, who are to be left to the care of their friends in this respect) as well the boarders in the master's house as the free scholars, do attend the public worship of God, in one of the parish churches within the Borough of Portsmouth, at least once on every Sunday throughout the year, and such other days as may be appointed by the master; and that the master and usher, or one of them, or, in case of their absence, some fit person or persons to be appointed by the master, do attend them to and from church, and do see to their good behaviour whilst there, and that each and every of the boys be furnished with a Bible and Prayer-book, at the expense of his parents or guardians.

"That the master shall write or cause to be written in a register book, the name and age of every free scholar admitted to the said school, and the time of admission, and also of his leaving the school, to the intent that a register be kept of the said school, and that the continuance of the scholars may appear, and also their proficiency in learning, according to their time, and that such book shall from time to time, and at all times, be open to inspection, when required by the Dean and Canons, or to such person or persons as the said Dean and Canons shall appoint.

"That if any free scholar shall be found unduly and

needlessly absent, that is to say, without just cause of sickness or other impediment to be allowed by the master, for three days, when the school is open, either together or at several times, in any one year, he shall be considered and stand utterly expelled, and unable of being again admitted into the said school.

"That each and every free scholar shall appear at the school clean and decently clothed, and that no boy who has any infectious or loathsome disease, or who shall be addicted to swearing, or profane or lewd conversation, shall be either admitted or suffered to continue in the said school.

"That books, pens, ink, paper, and slates, be provided for each free scholar, by or at the expense of his parents or guardians; and that no free scholar be admitted, or suffered to continue at the said school, who is not provided with such books, pens, ink, paper, and slates, and other matters necessary for his education, as the master shall direct.

"That no master, or usher, or other person employed in or about the said school, shall demand, or require, or receive, or take, any sum of money, present, or gratuity, whatever, from any free scholar, or the parents, or guardians, or friends, or relations, of any free scholar attending the said school, either directly or indirectly, or under any pretence, on pain of being removed from the said school, on proper representation being made thereof to the Dean and Canons aforesaid.

Trustees . . .	The Dean and Canons of Christ Church, Oxford.
Head Master . .	Rev. R. H. Cumyns.
Second Master .	Edward Nayler."

The school-room is large and handsome, and above the fire-place is a large ornamented stone slab, with this inscription:—

"VIRTUTI ET LITERIS SACRUM,
EX MUNIFICENTIA GULIELMI SMITH, M. D.
QUI OBIIT XI DIE FEB. A. D. MDCCXXXII."

—and at each corner are busts of Homer, Cicero, Virgil, and Horace.

At the lower end of Broad-street, Portsmouth, is the Custom-house: originally a public-house, called the Three Guns, or Ordnance Arms; afterwards an ordnance store, then converted into the old Custom-house; subsequent, however, to the original establishment of the denomination, which stood opposite the ancient Quay-gate in Oyster-street—a low stone-fronted house, with small, deep-set windows (now demolished). The new, or present one, was erected, in 1785, and is a large, dark brick building, containing all the requisite offices and stores, having in the rear communication with the camber, or lake. The business transacted here is very great, being principally import, reaching within these few years 93,000*l.* per annum; and six thousand sufferances being issued for coastways trade! Item, 15,264,000 eggs imported from France in one year, paying a duty of 5300*l.*

In 1783-4, the following notable example of political economy deserves record. It was in contemplation to erect the Custom-house on the site where now stand Mr. Lindegren's wharfs, &c.; a place the best suited in the whole port for such an important establishment, as not a boat or vessel could leave the Harbour without being seen; a difference of 200*l.* prevented the plan from being carried into execution, and the officers in the present situation have not even a glimpse of the ocean.

In Bath-square is the Custom-house watch-house, in which the boats of the revenue-officers are kept, and a watch day and night; no vessel enters the port without being hailed, and proper inquiries made respecting her. Here is also the Quebec tavern, much and deservedly frequented; and likewise the Consul's office for France, Sweden, and the German States.

Portsmouth was a member port to the mother port of Southampton. 1798, imports, 79,000*l.*; coast duties, 15,500*l.*; exports, 2000*l.*—A. D. 1272, Duties on wine at Southampton and Portsmouth, 13*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*—A.D. 1798, 22,000*l.*—A.D. 1815, 137,012*l.* at Portsmouth only! What is termed the Port of Portsmouth extends from Hill-head, near the opening of the Southampton water on the west, to the town of Emsworth on the east; having within its precincts Langstone and Portsmouth havens, Spithead, the Mother-bank, Stokes-bay, St. Helen's harbour, and part of the Solent Sea.

The establishment of the Customs consists of a collector, clerks to ditto, comptroller, clerk to ditto, surveyor, and comptrolling surveyor of warehouses, landing surveyor, searcher, landing waiters, and comptrolling searcher; jerquer, messenger, warehouse-keeper for bonded goods, coastwaiters for Portsmouth, Gosport, Fareham, and Cosham; tide surveyors, supervisor of riding officers, riding officers, inspecting commander of preventive boats within the port, surveyor's clerk, assistant warehouse-keeper for seized goods, superintendant of quarantine, commanders and mates of cutter. Besides these, there are nine weighers, lockers, and watchmen; twenty-eight tide-waiters, and seventeen coal-meters. The preventive stations are at Southsea Castle, Cumberland Fort, and Hayling Island; and on the Gosport side, at Stoke's Bay and Hill-head.

1809, Jan. 24th, on the beach at this part of the town, a dreadful explosion took place, attended with most serious consequences. The 2d battalion of the 8th regiment, having disembarked from foreign service, left for several days their baggage and ammunition on the shore: about eleven o'clock A. M. an old woman, who had been sitting for some time on one of the casks of gunpowder smoking her pipe, incautiously emptied it among the baggage, when one of the barrels immediately exploded. The effects were dreadful—more than thirty men, women, and children, were literally blown to atoms; their bodies presented the most awful spectacle, and limbs and heads were strewed in all directions, and several taken from the very tops of the adjoining houses. Some idea may be formed of the explosion, by one poor fellow being thrown over a considerable extent of building into an adjoining street, the figure of whose mangled body we saw impressed on the front of the house against which it fell; and a thigh of another was found a considerable distance up the Broad-street, whilst scarcely a single pane of window for near half the length of the street remained unbroken, and a great part of the store-rooms adjoining were completely destroyed. The barrel that exploded stood in a tier with sixteen others, which were expected every moment to blow up: a company of soldiers, with a few resolute sailors at their head, aided by the inhabitants, removed the remaining barrels, and prevented destruction

to the greater part of the town. The very woman who was the cause of the explosion, strange to say, remained unhurt!

On the beach stand the extensive wharfs of Messrs. Lindegren, agents for the India Company; the Star and Garter tavern, a comfortable house. About the centre of Broad-street stands the Baltic wharf, erected by Messrs. Burridge and Sons—over it, a lofty square tower. The well-known London waggon and coach-offices are also in Broad-street, behind the Blue Posts inn. In Bath-square and Broad-street are the various establishments connected with the shipping interests, viz. the offices of the several consulates, agents, water-companies, &c.

The towns are supplied with water by two companies, one acting under the provision of an act of parliament "for raising water by means of a steam-engine, from certain wells without the garrison, situate in a field belonging to the corporation of Portsmouth." The principal agent in this transaction was W. Nicholson, Esq. the civil engineer, and the undertaking was accomplished by a subscription in the neighbourhood. The engine-house is situate in the White-Swan field, about a quarter of a mile from the Landport-gate, and the water is distributed to all parts of the town by cast-iron pipes. This company is called "The Portsmouth Water-work Company."

The second, termed "The Farlington Water-work Company," is founded on acts of a more ancient date. In 1741, April 25th, an act for supplying the town and shipping at Portsmouth was granted to Thomas Smith, Esq. as a reward for the recovery of large quantities of land from the sea, near Langstone Harbour. Peter Taylor, Esq. succeeded this gentleman in his estates, and strove to carry the act into execution, by digging an immense well in Crookhorn-copse, near Purbrook, and then carrying an archway of brick through Portsdown-hill, above the level of Portsmouth, anticipating to meet with springs the flow of which might be readily conveyed by pipes; but after an immense expense of mining and brickwork through the whole bed of chalk, till the workmen emerged at an opening behind Farlington-church, not a drop of water was met with, and the speculation failed. Mr. Taylor then sold his right in the aforesaid

act to a party of monied men in London, who opened some copious springs in the Farlington marshes, erected a steam-engine, and excavated an immense reservoir on the hill, into which the water being forced, descends to Portsmouth, a distance of seven miles, by iron-pipes. The earthen pipes at different times discovered in the streets are those used by the first projector in the reign of George the Second —From the introduction of water by the different companies, and consequent disuse of the numberless wells in the towns, the whole island is in a degree saturated with moisture: the type of the diseases has been materially altered, and the results will in a few years prove the water companies any thing but a blessing. This one circumstance is already evident: dysenteric affections are now much more frequent than "in the olden time."

A Gas Company was incorporated by act of parliament in 1821, the first projectors being Messrs. Barlow, Brothers, of London. The works are near the Unicorn-gates in Portsea, and the towns are now generally lighted throughout.

The Royal Clarence Promenade-rooms and Baths are situated on the Beach to the southernmost part of the town, not far distant from the King's bastion. The original establishment for bathing was the erection of long rooms, many years since, on Southsea Common, by a Mr. Cross, of the Crown hotel, by whom the bathing-machines were also first introduced. These rooms were situated at the edge of the Common, near a small bridge thrown over a part of the morass, which till within this year or two formed part of the fortifications. Being of wood, they did not long withstand the "wintry wind and flying surf," and for many years afterwards the only accommodation to be found consisted in some miserable hovels called "M'Donald's Bathing-establishment." At length the spirit of speculation seized on a party of gentlemen, who purchased one of the canteen-houses at Portchester, brought it to Southsea, and rebuilt it on the Beach. This, however, was neither wind nor water tight, though it certainly formed a most excellent shower-bath. By great exertion it was, however, maintained for a few years, and some baths were added; but it remained for the present spirited occupier to commence and finish as

elegant and convenient rooms, baths, &c. as any in the kingdom; and having made arrangements with the Board of Ordnance respecting the ground, the old rooms were taken down, together with the cottages which surrounded them, and the present tasteful erection was planned and completed.

The rooms, as now rebuilt, present a fine arcade towards the sea, supported by Doric columns connected by large arches. The principal apartment is forty-five feet long, thirty-five broad, and seventeen feet high, most tastefully fitted up and adorned with noble chandeliers, &c. The daily papers, monthly publications, and a library of select works, afford amusement to the visitors, and in the evening the subscribers are enlivened with excellent music, singing, regatta, and other balls, &c. The prospect is one of the finest in Europe; and the swampy morass behind the rooms being now drained, the unpleasant vapours from stagnant water are no longer complained of, but fine promenades are presented to the view. On the whole, this is a bathing-establishment as complete, elegant, and convenient as any in the kingdom; and the great annual increase of visitors and subscribers is the best proof of its utility.

The baths at this establishment, forming two distinct sets for ladies and gentlemen, will be found to contain every thing desirable. The hot baths are of marble, with convenient dressing-rooms attached. They are supplied with pure sea-water as clear as crystal, of which each bath contains one hundred and fifty gallons; the whole worked by a very complete steam-apparatus, which raises forty gallons per minute, and heats it at the same time, by which means, also, the towels are kept warm and the dresses properly aired. The shower-baths are on a new principle, by which the force and quantity of the water can be regulated. The vapour-baths are well constructed, and are useful in violent cases of pains in the limbs, acute rheumatism, &c. A news-room is fitted up for the winter, adjoining the baths, and supplied with the London daily papers, &c. the terms of which may be known at the rooms.

The machines for cold bathing are ranged along the bold and pebbly shore, and are more convenient than at

any other place on the coast. It is not necessary to proceed above three yards before there is ample depth of water for all the purposes of bathing, without any mud, sand, or impurity, constantly in rapid flow, and indisputably the purest on the English shores. The machines for the accommodation of gentlemen are placed at a considerable distance from those appropriated to females, and neither are exposed to the inconvenience of houses overlooking them, as at Brighton, Worthing, &c.; and from the boldness of the shore and the construction of the machines, the long and unpleasant exposure is altogether avoided.

Our "Short Essay on Bathing, for the accommodation of Visitors," may be obtained from the libraries and booksellers in Portsmouth.

1754, the inhabitants erected in Bath-square, Broad-street, (to which it gives name) a commodious Bathing-house, containing four baths, dressing-rooms, &c. It is close to the Quebec hotel, plentifully supplied with water, and, though small, is a convenient and comfortable place.

Bathing-machines can also be obtained near Gosport, and at Stoke's Bay below Angleseaville.

In Green-row, Portsmouth, is the Portsmouth Institution, or Green-row rooms, erected in 1812 by subscription. This noble building consists of large ball and card-rooms, elegantly fitted with cut-glass chandeliers, and painted and decorated in a neat style. During the winter, assemblies and balls are held here; and in these rooms, in August 1827, the Lord High Admiral was entertained with a most princely banquet by the corporate body. The rooms below are appropriated as a charity-school for the education of near three hundred children. On the front appear two niches, containing figures of charity children, and above, the following inscription, explanatory of its object: "Erected, 1812, Portsmouth Institution for the Education of Children on the plan of the Rev. Dr. Bell, and in the principles of the Established Church." A liberal subscription is yearly made, and the rental of the ball-room appropriated to the same charitable purpose, after paying the current expenses of the building.

In the Old Rope-walk, Portsea, stands the Hall of the

Beneficial Society, erected from the funds of the society by Messrs. Sheen and Munday, from a design of Mr. Hay the naturalist. It is a truly noble building, consisting of a magnificent hall of great extent, long, lofty, and lighted by a range of windows on one side, and a fine Venetian window at the extremity. The rooms below are appropriated as a school-room for the education of a great number of children. The society is one of the oldest in the kingdom, and ranks among its members many of the most respectable persons in the neighbourhood and county. The anniversary is held on the first Monday in October, when, after attending divine service at St. George's church, and the customary business of the day gone through, the members partake of a splendid banquet. At other times the hall is used for concerts, public meetings, balls, &c.

In Grig-street, Southsea, is the Hall of the Provident Society, erected by the members in 1827, and opened on September 26th of the same year. It is a fine room, not, however, on so large a scale as those above-mentioned. The lower part is used as a school-room for the children of St. Paul's church, and the upper for the meetings of the society.

At the upper end of the High-street is the Theatre, a plain building, without the least trace of architectural ornament, and not very appropriate for the purposes of theatrical representation. The original theatre was in St. Mary-street, opposite Crown-street. It was afterwards in the High-street, four doors above the Unitarian Chapel. The first regular establishment was formed by Mattocks the singer; and the company consisted of Mrs. Mattocks, Mrs. Kennedy, Whitfield, Booth, Wheeler, Perry, Townshend, &c.—the latter a student at Dublin college. Lord Chatham used to visit this place of amusement in 1778. At the close of the American war, Perry opened a Sadler's Wells at the White Swan, in opposition to the regular theatre. This was for a time very successful; and innumerable were the papers, letters, paragraphs, &c. published by the partizans of each establishment. (We possess some curious caricatures relative to this theatrical warfare.) At length the Sadler's Wells was abandoned, and Perry, the manager, became

guard to the Chichester coach, and dying, left by will a sum annually to be paid to the guard of the coach, on condition of sounding the horn whenever the coach should pass the place of his interment (Farlington). The regular theatre was then removed to its present situation, under the management of Messrs. Wheeler and Davis, from whom it was purchased by T. Collins, Esq. who amassed by his speculation a large fortune, and about 1800 enlarged the house by the erection of a gallery. So great was the public estimation of Mr. Collins, that in consequence of being informed against by a person in Salisbury, at the time the company performed in that city, Earl Radnor, in the House of Lords, and Mr. Hussey, in the House of Commons, became so much his champions as to be the chief causes of that law passing which emancipates the stage from its former restrictions. After the death of this gentleman the property passed into the hands of the present theatrical triumvirate, Messrs. Kelly, Maxfield, and Collins. It has been often proposed to build a new theatre by subscription. Such a plan might be readily carried into execution, more especially now, as the theatre is advertized for sale, and will probably be removed.

A branch of the Royal Naval Annuitant Society exists in the town, the office being at the Guard-house, near Bonfire-place, Portsea.

In 1815, Mr. George Stebbing directed his attention to the formation of a Philosophical Society in this town, and having mentioned the idea to several of his friends, they endeavoured by every possible argument to dissuade him from the attempt, as being deemed by them altogether impracticable. His persevering mind was not, however, easily to be diverted from its favourite project; and, by the assistance of several scientific men, he succeeded in establishing meetings at his own residence, No. 69, High-street, where papers were read, or lectures delivered, weekly; thereby becoming the founder of the present "Portsmouth and Portsea Literary and Philosophical Society." In the early part of 1816, Dr. Porter delivered the introductory lecture, and for a long period Mr. Stebbing furnished apparatus, with every necessary; and by his constant personal attendance, sacrificed much of his time,

and bore the greater part of the expenses. It appears, however, that it was not a regularly organized society until the 5th of February, 1818, the date of the earliest recorded minutes in possession of the Society (the first minutes being lost), and of which the following is a copy;—

"At a meeting, held at Mr. George Stebbing's, No. 69, High-street, Portsmouth, on Thursday evening, the 5th of February, 1818, it was unanimously resolved, That a society be formed, to be denominated a Philosophical Society;" with several other regulations. To this document the following signatures are attached:—John Porter, M. D. President; John Fincham, Vice-President; William Kingstone, James Fowler, George Henry Dabbs, Thomas Herring, Richard White, John B. Roper, Henry Clark, Secretary. From this period, until October the 6th, 1820, the meetings were held, and lectures delivered, weekly (during the sessions), at the residence of Mr. Stebbing, who fitted up a large room for the purpose, and furnished the necessary apparatus, fires, &c. as appears in the society's laws, first published in 1819.

October 20, 1820, (permission having been granted by the Mayor and Corporate Body) the society held their first meeting in the old Town-hall; and on the 7th of December, 1821, again removed to their present commodious and handsome theatre, in Pembroke-street, to which is added a museum, containing (besides a great variety of philosophical apparatus) upwards of nine thousand specimens in natural history, tastefully and scientifically arranged.

This society is governed by a President, two Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, Curators of apparatus and museum, and a Committee of twenty-four, annually elected. Lectures are delivered, or papers on scientific subjects read, every Friday evening from October to March, from seven till nine o'clock. The annual meeting is held on the first Friday in July. The admission fee to members (who are elected by ballot) is one guinea, besides one guinea annual subscription; and for the accommodation of visitors to the town, subscribers are also admitted (by ballot) at half a guinea per annum, who have no other privilege than attendance at the public meetings of the society. Each

member is allowed a ticket of admission for a friend; and in case of the member's absence, his personal ticket is transferable; this privilege is extended to members only.

In a lecture on the theory of flame and combustion, which we delivered to this society on the 13th of February, 1824, we ventured to offer a few remarks on the Mechanics' Institution then forming in London, and threw out a hint as to the practicability of establishing one in this town. In February 1825, we issued prospectuses (furnished us gratuitously by Messrs. Harrison and Miller) with a view to its formation, of which the following is a copy:—

"Proposals for the formation of a Portsmouth and Portsea Mechanics' Institute.—'Knowledge is Power.'—Institutions for the instruction of mechanics, artizans, and apprentices, of every denomination, in the philosophical principles of the arts they practise, having been formed in London, and several of the principal towns in the kingdom; the happiest results having arisen from them, &c. &c.: The mechanics of these towns and neighbourhood, as well as all persons who may wish to see a Portsmouth and Portsea Mechanics' Institute established, are invited to leave their names and address at the residence of Messrs. Henry and Julian Slight, Surgeons, 100, High-street, Portsmouth, of whom any farther particulars may be obtained; and if there should appear, at the result of this invitation, a probability of success in so desirable an object—that the mechanics themselves are anxious for such an institution, and that they will support it—an early meeting will be called, for the purpose of submitting a plan for such an Institute;—leaving it with the meeting to dispose of it as they may think fit."

The number of applications which followed this appeal, from the more intelligent mechanics, evinced their readiness to support so desirable an object; but it was not until some few months after that it was carried into full effect. On the 3d of August, at a meeting held at the old Town-hall (in pursuance of a requisition to the Mayor), it was established, and called "The Portsmouth, Portsea, and Gosport Mechanics' Institution." On the 24th of August (at an adjourned meeting) the laws were

adopted; and on the 24th of October of this same year, Daniel Howard, Esq. an alderman of this borough, delivered the introductory lecture. The sessions are from November to March; a library is established for the use of the members, and lectures are delivered on every Monday evening."

In St. George's-square, Portsea, is the Hampshire Library, containing a large collection of books, and a handsome reading-room.

Near this library are Medical establishments for the relief of the poor, supported by voluntary subscription.

Branches of the Royal Humane; the Naval and Military Bible Societies; the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge; Ladies' Benevolent Institution; Missionary Societies of all denominations; Infant Schools; Saving Banks; Seamen's Bethel; Hampshire Benefit Society, and many other charitable institutions, exist in the towns, and are supported by most of the respectable inhabitants.

Boundaries of Portsea, olim Portsmouth Common :—

From the centre of the road, close to the gate leading from Portsea to the King's mill, (the Gun-wharf gate) along the mill pond of Mr. Legg's dam, at the north end of the mill pond there—thence excluding the said dam round the side of the mill pond, to Sir Thomas Ridge's dam, and thence along the end of the dam to the King's land—thence along in a bevel line to the place where Kingwell-pound stood—thence along by Sir T. Ridge's starch-house, to the Portsmouth turnpike-road—thence across the road to Sir T. Ridge's malthouse—thence back again close along the malthouse and garden-wall to the King's-land, opposite Kingwell-pound—thence round the eastern side of the King's land to the sea at Flat-house, to the low-water mark there—thence along low-water mark to his Majesty's Dockyard—thence round his Majesty's Dockyard, close to the sea, to the southern boundary of the Dock to low-water mark—thence to his Majesty's Gun-wharf—then up to the high-water mark, close to the Gun-wharf—thence close to the wall of the Gun-wharf on the land side (excluding the Gun-wharf) to the centre of the gate (the Gun-wharf gate).*

Boundaries of the Parish of Portsmouth :—

First commences at low-water mark, one hundred paces to the south-east of the Hot-walls (King's Ravelin); proceed in a northerly direction into the large moat, cross the little moat close to the right-hand wall of the large moat till the small spur leading to Landport-

* Act 27 Geo. III. A. D. 1787.

bridge is reached; cross the moat again, proceed along the outer wall to Landport-bridge; then along the moat, close to the outer wall, to nearly opposite the angle formed by the line from Quay (now King George's) gate, cross the road (by permission) to the King's-mill, keep close to the Mill; follow that line to the Bastion at Mill-gate; mount the Bastion, descend on the opposite side close to the Portcullis, thence in a direct line (intersecting obliquely the fort bridge and water) to the centre of the Gun-wharf large gates, thence in a direct line to the Storekeeper's house, halfway through this house, up three steps to the left; proceed in that line; descend three steps to the right, follow the course of the entry to the garden fence, thence to a pear-tree in the First Clerk's garden, thence to a small chimney in the Superintendant's laundry (Mr. Spencer's), thence to the angle of the wall, touching the Common Hard, thence along the Harbour line, and cross over to the Point from the nearest angle. Secondly, from the left hand of Spring-street, or on an angle to No. 7, to Martyr-yard, in Fountain-street, then in a line intersecting the chimneys of the double line of houses, straight on by the Marine Infirmary, including the water-course, to the weigh-bridge, and from the corner of Halfway Houses to the corner of the weigh-bridge-house, including the waste land formed by the angle.

The jurisdiction of the magistrates of the borough, by land and water, is comprehended within the following boundary:—

By water, from the boundary post on Southsea beach, about one hundred yards to the southward of the Promenade-rooms, to Block-house beach, up Haslar lake, through Forbes's bridge, to the causeway at Stoke, then up the other branch of the lake to the bridge that crosses the Alverstoke house of industry, on Ewer Common; returning from thence, to Gosport beach, up Forton lake to the mill, to Hardway and up Bedneham creek, then on to Fareham quay, and up the river to the bridge at the head of the mill-dam, then down the lake to Wicker Hard, and on to Portchester, and from thence along shore to Paulsgrove, Wymering, and round Horsey Island to Tipner. From Tipner, by land, to the Vicarage field, and on to the boundary pillar, near the third mile-stone, on the main road, from thence to Stubbington and along the lane to Kingston Church, to the boundary stone in Kingston-pond, from thence to Lake-lane, and down Lake-lane to Beeston's field, adjoining the Common field, thence to Kingston Church-yard Common field, on to Wish-lane, and by the morass to the post on Southsea beach.

A. D. 1194, the first charter, as follows, was granted to the Burgh of Portsmouth:—" Richard, by the grace of God, King of England, &c. &c. to the Archbishops, &c. and all the loving subjects of all our territory, greeting. Know, that we retain in our hand our Borough of Portesmuth, with all that thereunto appertaineth; and in

it we establish, give, and grant, a fair, to endure once in every year for fifteen days, (to wit) from the feast of St. Peter. We also grant, that all our loving subjects of England, &c. and of all our territories, and of others, may come to the aforesaid fair, and may go and return well and in peace, and may have all the free customs and liberties which they have at the fairs of Winton and Hoyland, or anywhere else in our territories. Moreover, we grant our burgesses in the said borough shall have in every week in the year, one seventh day (to wit, Thursday) for a market, with all the liberties and free customs which the citizens of Winton or Oxford, or others in our territory, have, or ought to have. Moreover we grant, that our town of Portesmuth, and all our burgesses holding in and of it, shall be free from toll and bridge toll, and stallage and tallage, and from county courts and hundred courts, and from summonses and from juries, and from fines for blood, and from Sichwita, and from mulcts, and from the wapentake court, and from forest writ and forest guard, and from regardership of forest, and from all other secular exactions, as well by sea as by land, wherever they shall come in all our territories. Moreover we command and firmly ordain, that the aforesaid town of Portesmuth, and our burgesses holding in it, shall have and hold their houses and possessions with market toll, and privilege to take bondmen, and liberty to try thieves taken within the Borough, and to take thieves which have fled, bring them back, try and judge them, and with all the liberties and free customs again well in peace, freedom, and quiet, as our citizens of Winton, or Oxford, or others in our territory have; and hold their possessions and liberties more free, better, or quiet; and we forbid that they shall be impleaded concerning any tenure of the said town, unless before us; and we forbid that any one disturb them.—Given under the hand of William Longchamp, Bishop of Ely, our Chancellor, near Portesmuth, on the second day of May, in the fifth year of our reign. These being witnesses: — William Priest of St. Mary, Master Ph'us, William de Stagno, William Mallum, Ganfred the son of Peter, Robert the son of Roger, Ganfred de Say."

A. D. 1200, Oct. 25. King John grants a charter

nearly in the same words, except towards the end, which, being freely translated, runs thus:—"And we forbid that they be impleaded concerning any tenure of the said town, as is expressed in the charter of our brother King Richard, except that there be added, in a clause where it is expressed in the charter of King Richard that they shall not be impleaded concerning any tenure of the said town except before us—there we add, 'or before our Lord Chief-Justice.' Given under the hand of Simon, Archdeacon of Wells, near Melksham, the 25th day of October, in the second year of our reign."

The charter of Henry III. in 1230, is like the others, except using the term "our men of Portesmuth," instead of "burgesses." His second charter, in 1255, is merely a confirmation of the first; and his third, in 1256, grants to the "honest men of Portesmuth" a gild of merchants, with certain privileges as to the arrest of themselves or their goods, not enjoined before.

"Homines de Portesmuth debent tres dolia vini, ut Rex (Henricus III.) præcipiat quosdam ex Justiciariis Itinerantibus in comitatu Suhantoniæ mitti usque Portesmuth, ad tenendum ibi placita illius villæ quæ ad Justiciarios pertinent, secundum tenorem cartæ Regis Ricardi avunculi Regis."*

A. D. 1298, the Borough first sent two burgesses to Parliament; and in the second and fourth years of the reign of Edward the Second, writs were directed to the bailiffs of Portsmouth, but no returns were made of them; and in the fifteenth year of Edward the Third, the town was seized into the King's hands, because they answered not to the King for the leviable debts within the town and liberties. Alarmed at the measure, the corporation entreated the King to admit them to fine; and on payment of *half a mark*, the privileges of the Borough were restored.

The charters of Edward II. in 1313; of Edward III. in 1359; of Richard II. in 1385; of Edward IV. in 1463; of Richard III. in 1484; contain nothing particular, being merely confirmations of former grants. Elizabeth, in 1600, after the usual declaration and statement, that the Borough was governed by a mayor, bailiffs, consta-

* Mag. Rot. 3 Hen. III. Rot. 3. a.

bles, &c. gave them a power of electing justices of the peace, and that the corporation should be styled "mayor and burgesses."

A. D. 1627, Charles I. after the usual styles, &c. states "The Borough of Portesmuth, in the County of Southampton, is an ancient Borough, and the burgesses, freemen, and inhabitants thereof, sometimes called 'honest men of Portesmuth,' sometimes 'men of Portesmuth,' sometimes 'burgesses of Portesmuth,' afterwards 'mayor and burgesses of the Borough of Portesmuth,' shall henceforth be known and called by the name of 'mayor, aldermen, and burgesses;' shall have a common seal." The charter nominates the first mayor, and twelve persons to be aldermen; and then grants, "that it should and might be lawful for the mayor and aldermen, &c. or the major part of them, from time to time, and at all times then after for ever, when, and as often as it should appear to them to be fit and necessary, to name so many and such persons to be burgesses as they should please, and to the said burgesses so chosen, to administer an oath for their faithfully executing the said office of burgess. The corporation to take lands, and make bye-laws. That the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses, or the major part of them, from time to time, have power to assemble themselves annually, every Monday seven-night before the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, and name one of the aldermen to be mayor. May impose fines, have power to create a deputy mayor; shall hold a court of record every week (except the festivals of Easter-week, Whitsuntide, and Christmas,) to be holden before the mayor, and recorder, and four aldermen; shall hold court-leet, and view of frank pledge, twice a year; shall elect justices of the peace, of whom the mayor for one year after his mayoralty shall be one; shall have a town gaol and town-clerk, who is to be clerk of the market; shall choose two serjeants at mace; the mayor shall have the goods and chattels of felons; to be free of toll; the inhabitants not to be summoned to assizes at Winchester; shall have a guild of merchants; shall have a fair at St. Peter's day, for fourteen days; may weave broad cloth and kerseys; may hold manors, messuages, and lands; shall pay an annual rent of 12*l.* 10s. 6d. to the Court of Exchequer;

shall enjoy all the privileges of preceding letters of incorporation or charters."

In 1682, the corporation surrendered the above charter, and received the following from the King.

"A. D. 1682. The charter of Charles the Second recites the surrender of former letters patent granted to the corporation by King Charles the First. Incorporates the borough of Portsmouth, and the town of Gosport a free borough, by the name of 'the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of the Borough of Portesmuth, in the County of Southampton.' Grants that one of the more honest and discreet aldermen shall be elected mayor; that twelve of the burgesses of the said borough shall be elected aldermen for life, besides the mayor for the time being; that the said aldermen shall be the council of the said borough, and aiding and assisting to the mayor; that the mayor, recorder, and aldermen, and their successors, or the major part of them (of whom the mayor and recorder to be always two), shall have full power to appoint bye-laws, and impose such reasonable fines, &c. upon all delinquents against such laws. Appoints Thomas Hancock to be the first mayor, and James Duke of York and others to be the first burgesses. Power to impose a fine of 10*l.* upon any one refusing to undertake the office of mayor or alderman. Licence to the mayor (in case of sickness or absence) to appoint a deputy. Appoints Sir John Biggs to be the first recorder; power in the mayor and aldermen to appoint in the room of Sir John Biggs, another recorder. The mayor to be clerk of the Market. *The charter reserves the power of removing the mayor, aldermen, &c. at the will and pleasure of his Majesty.* That the mayor, &c. and their successors, may hold and keep a fair or mart, in every year, for ever, to begin *ad festum sancti Petri ad Vincula*, to continue the whole of that day, and for fourteen days next immediately following, according to letters patent of King Richard the Second, granted to the men of Portesmuth; the said mayor, &c. to relinquish the holding of a certain fair which was accustomed to be held on the 1st of August. And farther, the said charter grants and confirms to the said mayor, aldermen, and burgesses, the free passage by water from Portsmouth to Gosport, and from Portsmouth to Ryde,

in the Isle of Wight, and the liberty of having and maintaining boats, &c. for the purpose of transporting to and fro persons with their goods and merchandize."

1678–9, Mr. Pepys, Secretary to the Admiralty, was solicited by the corporation to represent them in Parliament.

"13th Feb. at night.

"SIR,—Since I wrote to you by express, His R. H. being then abroad a-hunting, I have had opportunities to attend him with an account of yours to me this morning, and mine since to you, with his Majesty's and my Lord Treasurer's commands touching Sir John Ernle, who, I now understand from His R. H. is in town, and has spoken to His R. H. concerning this matter; and received for answer, what by the Duke's command I have now to acquaint you with; which is, that Colonel Norton having finally declined standing for Portsmouth, His R. H. does think it of great moment to his Majesty, that Sir John Ernle (Chancellor of the Exchequer) be provided for, and that therefore all endeavours be used by Sir John Kempthorne, declining it; and otherwise that Sir John Ernle be chosen, in company with you, for that place. Which leaving you by the Duke's command, &c.

"S. PEPYS."

To Col. Legge, at Portsmouth.

The Earl of Danby to Colonel Legge.

"SIR,—His Majesty has commanded Mr. Pepys to do all he can for the election of Sir John Ernle at Portsmouth; and, hearing that Sir John Kempthorne designs to stand, the King has enjoined Mr. Pepys to let him know in his name that he would have him to decline it himself, and to assist Mr. Chancellor, who is likely to be so necessary to his Majesty this Parliament, that he cannot want his services in the House. As he has laid his commands himself upon Mr. Pepys in this manner, so his Majesty has ordered me to signify his pleasure to you, and to let you know that his service is so much concerned in it, that he would have you leave nothing undone that is in your power for the obtaining for him that election.

(Signed) "DANBY."

Notwithstanding this kingly interference, Sir John Kempthorne was returned member for the Borough.

In 1688, Colonel Slingsby, M. P. for the town, having discovered that the charter of Charles the First was in the hands of a Mr. Goigne, and had not been duly surrendered, nor enrolment made of it, on proper application, procured the charter from Mr. Goigne, and thus rendered void that granted by Charles the Second; the corporation claiming nothing from it but the wearing of robes of scarlet and fur.

In 1689 Henry Slingsby presented a petition to Parliament, showing that Nicholas Hedger, under pretence of having surrendered his office (Mayor), did by undue means get himself returned, though still the legal mayor. There appears to have been no report on this petition.

In 1694, divers inhabitants paying scot and lot presented a petition against Nicholas Hedger, Mayor, for shutting the gates of the town, preventing those from voting who lived without, threatening many with corporal punishment for offering to poll for Mr. Dumner, keeping a guard of soldiers to threaten and discourage Mr. Dumner's friends, and getting himself returned by flagrant and unconstitutional practices.

In 1695 Matthew Aylmer presented a petition against the return of Colonel Gibson, stating for reason, that the Mayor, at a private consultation with a select party of aldermen, had put the seal to the return, in manifest wrong to Mr. Aylmer, who had the majority of votes. Parliament resolved "that John Gibson and Matthew Aylmer are not duly elected; that the election is a void election, and that the right of election is in the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the said Borough only."

On February 3, 1710, Parliament decided that a Mr. Whitehorn, who had been elected Mayor on the 10th of December, 1709, was not the legal mayor, not having taken the oaths or sacrament within the period prescribed by law; and that the aldermen and burgesses elected during his pretended mayoralty are not legal, and had no right to vote for members of parliament for the Borough.

On December 1, 1710, Sir William Giffard and Sir James Wishart, knts. petitioned against the sitting members, because the pretended mayor, Henry Seager, Esq.

and many of the aldermen, had not taken the necessary oaths or the sacrament in due time, and had used indirect means in procuring votes: Resolved by Parliament, "that Sir Charles Wager and Sir J. Jennings are not duly elected, and that Sir James Wishart and Sir W. Giffard are duly elected."

In 1714, the Corporation addressed King George the First against the Harleian ministry.

In 1774, information was laid against Mr. J. Carter, to show by what authority he exercised the office of burgess. —Chief-Justice Ashurst: "Judgment must be for the King, inasmuch as the burgess, on his election into that office, was only of the age of five years and ten months; for the power given by charter for the election of burgesses is to be exercised when and as often as it shall appear necessary and fit to the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses; meaning for the present purposes of the corporation; and the persons intended, such as are capable of the immediate execution of the office, not persons to be nominated only, and who might or might not act, as circumstances might turn out."

In 1774, the Corporation refused to accept the ministerial nomination of Peter Taylor, Esq. (the influence of the Admiralty having prevailed for a number of years in the nomination of the members), and invited Joshua Iremonger to oppose the Government interest. Mr. Taylor, however, carried his election. Government immediately moved informations against the *patriotic party* in the borough, and judgments of *ouster* were obtained against the mayor, several aldermen, and sixty burgesses. Informations were also moved against the *ministerial party* by their opponents, and twenty-nine of these were likewise ousted. Thus was the borough left without a mayor and recorder, only four aldermen and a few burgesses remaining legally in office; and of these four aldermen, two being in the patriotic, and two in the ministerial interest, no election of mayor or aldermen (being vested in the court of aldermen) could legally be made.

For the following nine years the borough was the scene of a species of political warfare; the majority of the ministerial burgesses assuming to themselves a power (contrary to the charter) of choosing a mayor from their

own party, who was, however, almost as soon as elected, ousted, the election being illegal. At the expiration of this period, however, the ministerial aldermen (Messrs. Lenzee and Varloe) dying, and the Earl Sandwich, patron and supporter of their party, being removed from office, the patronage and power fell into the hands of the patriotic aldermen (Messrs. Carter and White), of whom Mr. Carter was, at Michaelmas, elected mayor; a court of aldermen held; vacancies filled up; new burgesses elected, and the Corporation assumed once more a legal form.

In 1800, the Corporation went in grand procession the water-bounds of the borough.

In 1820, on the election of Admiral Markham, objections were made to twenty-six of the votes given to that gentleman, in consequence of their being tendered by non-residents; and fourteen inhabitants tendered themselves for Sir G. Cockburn, in order to try their right of voting: their votes were, however, refused to be received or recorded by the mayor. (On this occasion petitions in favour of Sir G. Cockburn, signed by several thousands of the inhabitants, were presented.) On the meeting of Parliament, Sir G. Cockburn petitioned against the return of Admiral Markham, on the ground that the right of voting in the borough of Portsmouth was in the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of the borough, *being resident* within the said borough, or the limits and liberties thereof. The committee determined "that the right of election of burgesses to serve in parliament for the borough of Portsmouth is in the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses *only*; thus declaring Admiral Markham duly elected.

On January 26, 1821, Sir George Garrett, Knt. the Rev. G. Cuthbert, and others, petitioned against the decision of the aforesaid select committee. The petition was again referred to a select committee, who again decided in the same manner and words as on a former occasion. The present members are, John Bonham Carter and Francis Baring, Esqrs.

In 1827, the Corporation (Daniel Howard, Esq. mayor) gave a magnificent banquet to His R. H. the Duke of Clarence, on his official visit to the port, after receiving the ancient office of Lord High Admiral of England.

The corporate body consists of a mayor, twelve alder-

men, an indefinite number of burgesses, recorder, town-clerk, and coroner, chamberlain, surgeon, two serjeants-at-mace, gaoler, turnkey, crier, harbour-master, wharfinger, and other subordinate officers.

The new Gaol of the borough, situated in Penny-street, was commenced in 1805, and completed in 1809, at an expense of eighteen thousand pounds; and is a fabric which does honour to the borough. It was begun in the mayoralty of William Goldson, Esq. in pursuance of a presentment by the grand-jury on the inadequacy of the old building, where prisoners of every description formed one promiscuous throng, and, at each quarter-sessions, those for trial were led in fetters through the public market to the court. Here, however, prisoners are properly classed, and male and female kept separate. The good discipline, united with humanity, maintained by Mr. Edward Hunt, the gaoler, his late father, and the present turnkey, Mr. Hill, have obtained merited praise. Over the gaol are situated the apartments for the dispatch of the business of the borough: a sessions'-room, of noble proportions, well lighted, and furnished with every convenience. By means of a small staircase, the prisoners are brought up from their cells into the body of the court, by which the noise and disturbance, common on such occasions, is completely avoided. There is likewise a large Council-chamber, and offices for the town-clerk, &c. In the Council-chamber is a large engraving of Portsmouth in the reign of Henry the Eighth, from a painting by Holbein; also a portrait of —— Carter, Esq. in his robes of office, painted by the late Rev. George Cuthbert. There is also an ancient table, with some curious carvings in wood, &c.

Owing to the provisions of Mr. Peel's bill for the regulation of gaols, this building will shortly be much enlarged, by the erection of a chapel, additional yards, &c. for which purpose the site of the ancient Alms-houses founded by Mr. Burgess (we think, the Non-conformist vicar of Portsmouth) for eight poor widows, has been purchased for near seven hundred pounds by the Corporation; and on the farther extremity, the large stone-yard and building, together with several tenements in the rear of the alms-houses in St. Nicholas-street.

In this gaol are held four sessions of the peace yearly: a court of record every Tuesday, in which any person may sue for a debt not under forty shillings. At the sessions, petty larcenies and small crimes are tried, but nothing capital can be determined on here. The chandeliers in the Sessions-room were formerly in the old Town-hall; and the bell in the cupola above the ante-room is very ancient. On this cupola is placed, as a vane, the arms of the Corporation; and above the principal front is a flag-staff, on which is displayed, at particular times, the Corporation flag.

The flag of Don Blas, the Spanish admiral, which was taken at Carthagena by Admiral ~~Duncan~~, was presented to the corporation in 1741. Vernon

Near the Quay-gate in Portsmouth is a small prison or cage; and on the Hard at Portsea is a second. At Gosport, the Gaol, or Bridewell, is under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates, and is conducted on the best principles.

"David Tyer was executed on Southsea beach for high-treason; beheaded, drawn, and quartered, with the most inhuman and disgusting cruelty; his heart being torn from the body; the blood spouting over the spectators; the miscreants cutting off his fingers for tobacco-stoppers, and leaving the unburied remains exposed to the sea-fowl on the beach. His head was kept as a show for many years, by 'Buck Adams,' the gaoler of Gosport Bridewell, who publicly claimed it, placed it in a bag, and carried it home under his arm." Saturday, Aug. 14, 1782.

The original Gaol was termed the White-house: it stood where is now the Clarence hotel, or upper end of the Crown inn. It was a pointed-fronted house, with small square iron-grafted casements: in front was a row of iron palisades, the door being in the centre through an iron gate, over which was the crest of the borough, and in the corner a large pump for supplying the prison with water. The well still exists in front under the curb-stone of the pavement: a few years since it suddenly foundered in, to the imminent danger of the London Mail and passengers. If our memory serves us, one of the horses was killed by falling into it; but the traces breaking, the rest were saved. In the centre of the front was a small case-

ment, from which the hand or glove was exhibited during the mart or fair. Behind this front tenement, which was very confined, was a paved court-yard; and behind this the prison or dungeon. In the court-yard was a remarkably fine mulberry-tree; but, a man having effected his escape by ascending it and reaching the roof of the adjoining house, it was cut down. The edifice was of Portland stone, and very strong and ancient, but extremely inconvenient and unwholesome. It was sold to a Mr. Herman, in 1805, for 1000*l.* and by him pulled down, and the present house or hotel erected. In a large coach-house behind, the original under-ground dungeon still exists, and used as a coal-cellar: the descent was by a trap-door and iron ladder, which was withdrawn at night. In this dungeon was confined the celebrated Jack the painter. During the Jubilee, in the 50th year of the reign of George the Third, this hotel, and the coach-houses behind, being in an unfinished state, were converted into immense supper-rooms, and fitted up with amazing magnificence and taste, and several hundred persons banqueted in what but a few months previous had been the seat of misery and crime. During the existence of the old Gaol, criminals and vagrants were led through the public streets to take their trial in the old Town-hall, which was then the Sessions-room.

MILITARY HISTORY, FORTIFICATIONS, CASTLES, &c.

THE garrison of Portsmouth generally consists of three regiments of infantry, a division of royal marines and marine artillery, detachments of royal artillery, and engineers for repairing the works. These troops are engaged in protecting the Arsenal and public buildings; and in a siege it would require 14,000 men to fully garrison this place. "1726, at present Portsmouth is only manned by about one hundred invalids."* The staff officers are a governor, lieut.-governor, aide-de-camp, major, quarter-master-general, town major, adjutant, clerk to lieut.-governor, chaplain, physician, surgeon, commandant of royal artillery, barrack-masters, &c.

"1546. The town of Portesmuth is muried from the est tour a forough length withe a mudde waulle armid with tymbre, whereon be great peaces both of yron and brassen ordinaunces, and this peace of waulle having a diche without it, runnith so far flat south-south-est, and is the place moste apte to defende the toun there open to the hauen: ther runnith a diche almost flat est for a space, and wythin it is a waulle of mudde like to the other, and so there goeth rounde aboute the toun to the circuite of a myle: there is a gate of tymbre at the north-est of the toun, and bye it is cast up an hille of erth dicheed, whereon be gunnes to defend entre into the toun by land. I learned in the toun that the tourres in the hauen mouth were begun in King Edward iv. tyme, and set forwarde yn building by Richard iij. King Henrie vij. ended them at the procuration of Fox, bishop of Winchester. King Henry the vij. of late tyme sette in Portesmuth capitaines and certen soldiours in garrison."†

The tower here mentioned is the Round Tower at the

* Franklin. † Leland, Itin.

entrance, which has been of late years considerably enlarged and raised. The line of covered batteries extending from it was erected by James the Second, whose initials and crown still appear on almost every key-stone, with the date. The ancient Sally-port with its small turret has been demolished, and the passage considerably enlarged and improved. In front of this line of fortification lay buried in the shingle the enormous chains used to defend the entrance of the port. A part may still be seen on Block-house beach. In the American disturbance, the capstans were repaired behind the round tower, and on the opposite shore, and the chains were raised and tightened, at the time a French fleet was hovering off Plymouth. From an old engraving in our possession it appears there was a considerable embankment on the sea-side of the tower, about one hundred years since. A low wall passes across the camber moat, enclosing a covered way and staircase to the ancient batteries on each side the lower gateway, which contain covered chambers, the windows of which have been closed up; above are platforms, to which broad flights of stone-steps lead on each side.

"The people of Portsmouth tell strange stories of the severity of one Gibson, who was governor of this place in the Queen's time, to his soldiers, and show you a miserable dungeon near the town-gate, which they call 'Johnny Gibson's Hole,' where for trifling misdemeanors he used to confine his soldiers till they were almost starved to death."*

The Lower or King James Gate, is a structure in the Venetian stile, with double Corinthian pilasters on each side the archway, an entablature supporting a circular tower, and ball and ornamental spires on each side. The inscription is IACOBVS : SECVNDVS : A : R : III : AN : DOM : 1687. On the key-stone are the initials I R surmounted by an imperial crown, with the date 16–87, and below the Ordnance arms, three cannon on a shield. A heavy drawbridge is in front. The ancient batteries near this gate have been for some time under repair.

About forty-five years since, during a tempest, the

* Franklin.

marble ball fell from the summit of the tower of the gate, and split into fragments at the feet of two ladies who were passing at the time. The gateway remained in a very dilapidated state till 1826, when being under repair, in March, we addressed a letter to the commandant relative to the inscription, which was nearly obliterated, and on May the 3d it was restored. On June 29th the repairs were completed, and the present immense marble ball placed on the summit. A lofty stone wall, through which is the opening called the New Sallyport or King's Stairs, reaches to the ancient Government-house.

Before the dissolution of the Priory of God's House, this square building was the residence of the Governor; at a later period it was converted into a powder-magazine for the garrison, and used as such for many years. It was probably erected in the reign of Edward III. or Richard III. as it appears delineated in Holbein's picture of the Wars of Henry VIII. In 1623-4, the inhabitants erected, in a circular niche on the centre of the northern front, a brass bust of Charles I. richly gilt, encircled by a wreath of laurel and oak; and in basso relievo below, the royal arms. The small slab above the bust, with the name, seems of modern date. The following inscription is on a square stone: "King CHARLES THE FIRST: after his travels through all France and Spain, and having passed many dangers both by sea and land, he arrived here the 4th day of October, 1623: there was the greatest applause of joy for his safety throughout the kingdom that ever was known or heard of" The statue was re-gilt in 1814.

"July 9, 1779. Lieutenant-Colonel Archer represented to the Board of Ordnance that certain stores, intended to be built on the Quay, would be in front of one of the batteries of the Garrison. Jonas Hanway, Esq. came to Portsmouth, to ascertain the expense of converting the old Magazine into a store; and the Ordnance gave consent that the Commissioners of the Victualling-board should take possession of it, instead of building stores on the Quay: which they did on July 10, 1779, making the necessary alterations, and erecting a new Slaughter-house on a piece of waste ground adjoining, from the design of Mr. Thomas Hoskins, at an expense of 1382*l.* 4s. 9d."

The Board of Admiralty erected, in 1823, above the roof of the Magazine, at an immense expense, a Semaphore for transmission of signals, which is effected between this and London in three minutes. It is of wood, framed and bolted, and contains several apartments, and a variety of beautiful mechanism. The entrance is on the Platform, and carried by an archway over the roof; from the square, at the summit, rises the mechanism of the Semaphore and a flag-staff.—But few traces of the original appropriation of this old Government-house can now be discovered. Previous to the repairs (1827) traces of four windows, blocked up, could be discerned on the sea-side, and a species of loop-hole in the centre; three on the northern side, and traces of several near the ground, which afforded light to vaults. There are indications of four large windows on the east, and one towards the west. Within, on the ground floor, is an old-fashioned stone doorway (with immense iron hinges for a door), leading to a passage now closed up; and a second appears at the eastern extremity. On the next floor are only the immense brick arches of the Magazine. The external walls are eight feet thick, and on the western side seventeen. The building having been lined with brickwork, no clue to the internal arrangement of the apartments can be traced. A doorway opens through the sea wall to a wooden wharf, called the Beef Stage, which projects a long way into the sea, to enable vessels to approach for supplies of fresh provision. It is by the staircase near this wharf that persons of rank generally enter the Garrison. During the visit of the Lord High Admiral, the Semaphore was magnificently illuminated. The sea-wall is now entirely restored and strengthened.

Next appears the Platform Battery, which commands a magnificent sea view. Here is a Sun-dial; and a few years since a Semaphore stood in the centre. A Signal-house on this bastion was erected in the reign of Elizabeth, as appeared from the date, 1569, in a nook at the extremity. Adjoining was the state chamber, over the door of which was a marble slab, bearing this inscription: "CAROLVS: II: AN: REG: XXXIIII: A: D: 1682." It was used for courts martial; but sold by auction Dec. 5, 1827, and demolished. At a short distance anciently stood

a semicircular tower, from the foot of which to the situation of the Hot-wall Bastion was an arm of the sea, reaching to the Governor's green, and communicating with the moats, which were thus filled at every tide: by the erection of the new works, the extension of the Platform, &c. in 1733, it has been enclosed, and the sea is now admitted by a sluice. This battery mounts twenty-one pieces of cannon, used for salutes; and at one extremity are four remarkable cannon, of tremendous calibre; and on the King's Bastion (being the next towards the last) are many others of the same proportions. They were taken in L'Impetueux, in Lord Howe's victory of the 1st of June, 1794, and are much admired. On the latter battery are many large bombs; and beneath is a vast magazine. The Garrison flag is displayed on this part of the works; and a cannon is daily fired at the rising and setting of the sun. In the front, towards the sea, is a strong ravelin, and at equal distances all round the towns: these smaller outworks flank the curtains of the inner wall. At a short distance from the King's Bastion is the Spur-gate, leading to Southsea; and, after a circuit of some extent, the Landport, or St. Thomas-gateway, the principal entrance to the town, consisting of a fine plain archway, surmounted by a tower and dome, with large drawbridges across the moats; two guard-houses, and a smaller gateway for foot passengers, at a little distance. At this gate, the interesting ceremony of delivering up the keys of the garrison by the Lieutenant-Governor takes place, whenever the Sovereign visits Portsmouth. During this the gates are closed; until the keys being returned to the proper officers, the royal command is given "to throw open the gates of his Majesty's fortress, that the King may enter." The crown above the inner part of this gateway was found about forty years ago, in the rubbish above the arch, when the earth was removed for some repairs. It formed the keystone of the ancient gate; had been removed during the Commonwealth; and was recut, and placed in its present situation, by the late Mr. James Hay, of Queen-street, Portsea.

At the side of the small gateway was formerly a stately elm-tree, of noble size; it projected from the walls which had been built round it. Through this gate pass the

water-pipes of the different companies. The flag-staff was erected October 2, 1800; and the Magazine on the adjacent bastion has been rebuilt (1827).

The Walls continue to encircle Portsmouth (passing the gateway and elegant bridge leading to Portsea) to the Quay, or King George's-gate, a noble structure, in the rustic style, adorned with massive pillars, and entablature of grand proportions. Above are various apartments, formerly the offices of the Governor, and, on the inner side, a large Guard-house; a lofty stone wall completes the circle of defence. Before the erection of the present Quay-gate (sixty years since), the entrance was through an open arch in the wall, twelve feet southward towards the Cage, traces of which are still discernible; and at the extremity of Crown-street was a small wicket, now closed by stonework, but the shape of which may be still discovered. Between the Quay and King James's-gate is an ancient Bastion, with circular portholes, commanding the drawbridge. On two sides appear, in bold sculpture, the initials "I. R. 1687."

In the colonnade of fine elms on the Ramparts, is a large rookery. The first pair settled in March 1820.

On the southern side of the Bastion, opposite King's-terrace, is inscribed in large letters, "W. Legge, 1679." He was Governor about the time Parliament granted 6931*l.* for repairs. James and William made great additions; and, since 1770, many others have been effected at vast expense.

1759, April 10. For compensation to the proprietors of land near Portsmouth, purchased for securing the Dock, 6937*l.* 13s. 7½d. Interest of ditto, 4159*l.* 4s. 8½d.*

The whole of the moats (some miles in extent) can be readily filled with water up to the bridges. A spacious glacis and covert way surrounds the Fortifications on the land side, forming, with them, nearly a quadrangle. From the bottom of the moat, rises a perpendicular stone wall, fifteen feet in height, with a double parapet for small arms upon the mound, planned in bastions and curtains. The bastions regularly flank each other; and in the angles project the ravelins and spurs in all directions. These have been, of late years, planted with elms, and the

* Parliamentary Grants.

esplanade with walnut-trees and quickset hedges. The moats were, in 1820, repaired and improved, by narrowing and deepening the trenches. The waters abound with eels, as they formerly did with mullet; and in one part is a remarkable spring of water of the purest quality.

"In the Rampart walls of Portsmouth, where the Portland stone is kept soft by the earth behind, the fragments which fall by the action of the atmosphere exactly resemble those of chalk. The mortar used in the erection is that from Butser's-hill, near Petersfield."*

Under the direction of the late General Fisher, the works were much improved, and new sluices and towers erected in the moats. A deep and wide fosse was cut from the Portsmouth works, along the edge of the London-road to the Mill-dam, a large sheet of water, of many acres in extent. By this fosse the New Fortifications round Portsea are united with the old works. These gigantic Ramparts, which encircle the town in a semicircular form, and extend for nearly two miles, in all the strength of modern improvement, were commenced in 1770, under the direction, and at the suggestion of the Duke of Richmond, who received many valuable hints from the celebrated Major Cartwright. The first regiment employed was the 33d. The walls are of great height, and the ditches and ravelins of vast extent, with covered ways, and lines in all directions. The various bastions are much larger than those of Portsmouth; and in the internal angles are extensive paddocks of pasture land, and a parade ground. The whole are thickly studded with thriving timber, which adds, by the luxuriance of its foliage, to the beauty of the place. In the lines are two magnificent gates, called the Lion and Unicorn gates, from the respective figures in the entablature. The architecture, both on the internal and external part, is bold, grand, and effective. These Ramparts pass close to the inner part of the harbour, and completely defend the arsenal. One of the bastions in the mill-dam presents a beautiful appearance at the time of high-water: and the lake, which was formerly of at least double the extent, reaching to Lake-lane at Half-

* Sutcliffe's Geology.

way Houses, adds much to the strength of the garrison. A new stone Bridge has, within these five years, been thrown across a part of this lake, communicating with Portsea from the London turnpike-road; and the bridges before the principal gates are of cast iron, erected in 1827-8. The external glacis, of many acres in circumference, was formerly pasture land, belonging to Sir Thomas Ridge, whose house is at this time the residence of the Commandant of the Artillery, opposite Ridge's Pond. At the corner of the lake, close to the London road, about four hundred yards from the Land-port, formerly stood a small chapel, called Magdalen Chapel; not many years since some visible traces remained. Where the Mill-dam reaches the Gun-wharf, is a large Bastion, with gateways leading to Portsea. This may be rather considered an outwork of the Portsmouth Lines. It is strong, and defends the King's-mill and the Canal of the Gun-wharf. The Ordnance are now erecting a broad roadway, from near the Bastion to the new offices on the Mill-dam Parade, using the materials of the old Government-house; and it is supposed that in a short time the site of the King's-mill will be added to the Gun-wharf.

"1726. Except the Fort at the mouth of the harbour, and a small outwork before the main street of the town, Gosport is only defended by a mud wall which surrounds it, and a trench, or dry ditch, of about ten feet depth and breadth."*

For many years before the publication of the above observation, Gosport had been fortified with walls of earth, as is evident from plates in our possession; but it is of late years that the strength has been much increased, and the circumference enlarged. The works will not, however, bear comparison with those of Portsmouth, nor is their appearance in any degree so imposing, being destitute of trees. There are several gates in the lines leading to Haslar and Forton, being archways, erected in 1800, but having nothing remarkable in their architecture; and there is much vacant ground within the walls. The fort mentioned by Franklin was erected in the reign of Charles the Second, and denomi-

* Franklin.

nated Charles Fort, being a square tower and bastion, mounted with cannon. It is now in ruins on the Beach, hidden from casual observance by a house called the Castle tavern. A second Fort, which has been vulgarly ascribed to the reign of Stephen, but which was erected at the same time, and was of the same square character, and termed James's Fort, (though commonly called Borough Castle,) till the last year stood on a small island in the harbour. It has been partly demolished for the materials. It was used for many years as a place of interment for convicts; and the island known by the name of "Rat Island." The principal defences of the coast are, however, the tremendous fortifications, called the Block-house Fort, at the mouth of the haven; and Monkton Fort, near Stoke's Bay. The former is mounted with a range of ordnance of large calibre, and commands the whole of the entrance channel of the harbour.

"The lande at the west pointe of Portesmuth Haven is a sandy nesse and some brekitt of ygoing place to the open se. There is a round tourre with ordinaunce at the west point of the mouth of Portesmuth Haven; and a little way uppe to the haven is a greate creke, goying by west up into the lande a mile, called Ostrepole Lake. Scant a quarter of a mile above this is Gosport village."*

It is now a complete fortification in itself, having, in the present century, been greatly improved and enlarged. A salute from this covered bastion has a remarkably splendid effect. In the reign of Anne, the ditches round this fort communicated freely with the harbour. The walls were of little elevation; and in the centre stood the small dwelling-house still in existence. The approach, on the land side, is by a winding passage, with a brick wall on each side, and a drawbridge leading to a handsome stone gateway; over which is inscribed, in a neat tablet, 1708, three cannons, three balls, and the word Anno above. On a smaller tablet, rather higher than the former, appears, "Reformed MDCCCXIII." The whole surmounted by the double G. R. and crown. Over the archway, within the fort, on a small tablet, is inscribed "G. R. III."

Near the point of land called the Kicker, stands a

* Leland, Itin.

second very strong line of battery, faced with Portland stone, commanding the roadstead of Spithead: built on the same principles as the Block-house Fort, at the suggestion of his Grace the Duke of Richmond, and called Fort Monkton, containing thirty-two pieces of heavy ordnance. In it are combined all the modern improvements in military architecture; and it is capacious enough to receive a large body of troops: a strong redoubt extends also towards the west.

With regard to the defences on the Portsea coast, we may enumerate Southsea Castle (of which we shall give a more detailed account), and Cumberland Fort, situate at the mouth of Langstone Harbour, three miles from Portsmouth. This extensive fortification, which cost many hundred thousand pounds, was erected by convicts, from bricks manufactured on the spot, and faced with Portland stone. It covers a great extent of ground, has secret communications, mounts one hundred pieces of cannon, is capable of containing four thousand troops, and is perfectly useless from its situation. It was commenced in 1746, Lord Tyrawley being the projector, but was very small. The principal part was formed under the direction of the Duke of Richmond; and from 1794 till 1820 was much improved and enlarged by employing the convicts. It is named in honour of William Duke of Cumberland. On the beach are two small forts for six cannon, called Eastney and Lump Forts. They are, however, in a very dilapidated state from the violence of the sea. At the latter more than three acres of land have been lost since its first erection. Southsea Castle, situate three quarters of a mile south of Portsmouth, on the beach of the Common close to the water's edge, was built by Henry the Eighth in 1539, "a ryght goodlie and warlyke castill." A good view of it is found in Holbein's pictures. The original castle consisted of a blockhouse with a domelike top. In the reign of Charles the Second it was surrounded with a star fort, as appeared from a small square tablet on the south side of the blockhouse near a flight of steps and an internal archway: CAROLVS: II: REX: A: REG: XXXIII. On the accession of the House of Hanover, it was repaired and enlarged.

In 1552 King Edward VI. passed a night in this castle during a tour for his health. In the reign of Elizabeth the following was the state of the garrison: captaine, fee per diem 2*s.*; under captaine, 1*s.* 1*d.*; porters 2, one per diem 8*d.* the other 6*d.*; master gunner, 8*d.*; gunners 14, soldiers 11, one day watch, fee apiece per diem 6*d.*

"1642, on Saturday September 3d, in the night, the Parliament forces took Sousey Castle, w'ch lyes a mile from the toun upon the sea, and the way thither is on the sea sands. The captaine of the castel, his name was Challiner, who on Saturday had been at Portsmouth, and in the evening went home to the castell, and his souldiers took horseloads of provision, biscuit, meal and other necessaries wy them. They reported he had more drinke in his head than was befitting such a tyme and service, and the tounsmen gave out, that he had been bribed wy money to yield the castel up, but 'twas false, tho the first may be true, yet was not that neither any furtherence to the taking of it, for thus it was. Here were eighty musqueteers and others that came that night to the walle of the castle and under their ordnance, and had wy them a very good engineer and thirty-five scaling-ladders, and the whole company in the castle were but twelve commanders or officers, who all were not able to deal wy ours in such a disadvantage; wherefore ours having suddenly and silently scaled the walls, called unto them, advised them what to do, shewing the advantage we had over them, and therefore their danger if they resisted; who seeing the same immediately yielded the castle to us, whereupon our triumph at our taking it was plainly heard about two of the clock in the morning into the towne; and as soon as they were masters of the castle they discharged two pieces of the castle ordnance against the towne, which capitulated the next day."

1759, Aug. 23d, at eight in the morning, part of this castle was blown up by some sparks falling through the old flooring into a room below, where some soldiers had been the day before filling ball-cartridges, and where a quantity of powder had been carelessly scattered about. Seventeen men, women and children were dug out of the rubbish dead; all the windows were broken, and great

part of the eastern wing damaged; the grand sea bastions were not injured, and only a small part of the wall and parapet on the land side. The force of the explosion of nine barrels burst open the door of the western magazine, tore a large bolt away, but happily reached no farther.

1782, Francis Leske, Esq. was deputy governor, with a salary of 91*l.* 5*s.* per annum.

This castle remained after the explosion in a very dilapidated state; and the sea shortly after destroyed large portions of the outworks, the watch-towers, &c. The interior, however, was very picturesque, the gateways of the keep and the staircases, with the deep-set windows and framework being highly interesting. In 1814 the greater part was rebuilt under the direction of Major-gen. Fisher, and now consists of a strong fortified tower, surrounded by a noble terrace, on one part of which has been lately erected a beacon-light, a moat, and covered way, having communication by subterraneous passages. It has accommodation for two hundred men, with apartments for the officers. The approach is by a winding passage and drawbridge leading to a large gateway, above which appear the royal arms of Charles the Second, which have been replaced by the Board of Ordnance. The inscription is as follows: CAROLVS: II: REX: ANNO: REGNI: XXXVIII: A: D: MDCLXXXIII.

All this line of coast has suffered greatly from encroachment by the sea, which has also gradually destroyed the forts. Persons are yet living who remember a furze common below the present Castle.

At Hilsea, four miles on the London road, is a military post, guard-houses, and a double drawbridge with extensive outworks, a deep canal, and a second stone-bridge. The land in all directions was a few years since purchased at immense expense, with a view to farther improvements.

"1694. There are three small parcells of glebe within the towne, one is neare a small acre of land called the Vicar's Close, neare the Land Port, wich more than fourteen yeares agoe the officers of the Ordnance tooke up, to erect thereon an hospitall for the garrison, wch was done, and is since turned into a barracks for lodgings of

soldiers. I had much trouble about it, and was a great loser, but at last got forty shillings yearly rent, which, after seven years delay and frequent attendance and application to superiors, I gained, being part seven years rent together, and since have with some trouble gained an order for the payment here by a clerk of that office alwaye resident in garrison. Kg. Charles ye 2d did promise some further compensation for his seizure of that land, and destroying the vicar's tithes in the several parishes neare the towne, wch were purchased of the owners to enlarge the Fortifications; but I could never by any friendes procure the settlement of aught while the king lived, and had feint hopes afterwards to expect aught."*

The above extract is curious, as showing the date of the erection of the Colewort Barracks, which extend some hundred feet, presenting a fine range of buildings, three stories high, having in front a parade-ground of large size, at one extremity of which is a building corresponding in style, formerly used as an armoury. In the front is a bold armorial sculpture of the English arms in alto relievo. Behind is a second space of ground with ranges of stabling; and on the opposite side, the apartments of the officers of the Royal Artillery. Government have lately purchased a large piece of land adjoining the barracks for 2000*l.* and (April 1827) many old and ruinous houses near the Parish house have been demolished. On the site of the barracks anciently stood a Conventual building dedicated to the Virgin Mary; and the large burial-ground called St. Mary's was the colewort or cabbage garden or close. It has been of late much improved by trees, levelling the earth, and the erection of walls and gates. The date and name are inscribed over the gateway in St. Mary-street. A few feet in breadth was left between the houses and the new wall, for which the householders pay yearly a small quit-rent to the vicar. The ruins of the conventual pile were extant in 1692, and used in the re-construction of St. Thomas

* Extract of a letter from Thomas Heather, vicar of Portsmouth, to Doctor Nicholas, warden of the college of Winton.

church. In St. Nicholas-street are situated the marine barracks, and also those of the marine artillery, who are now stationed within the walls of the garrison.

"1613. King Henrie the vij. at his firste warres into Fraunce erected in the southe parte of the toune vii great bruing houses with the implements to serve his shippes at such tyme as they shoul go to the se in tyme of warre."*

A part of the houses here described remained till 1825, and were latterly known as the Shot-locker. They were of stone, with lofty roofs, and the walls of great thickness.

"1723, April 17. Samuel Shepherd erected on his Maties ground, near the Forehouse Barracks, a series of buildings, in breadth, feet 21½, and in length on the east side next the ramparts, on the south next the barracks, and on the west to the gateway, feet 474, and on the west next Pennie-street [St. Nicholas-street?] 125 feet long, including the gateway, to contain six shops, fifty-six feet long, the remainder for stores, an office for the superintendent, and lodges for watchmen, a weighing-machine, twenty-five feet long, seasoning-house, forty feet long, and a long storehouse. The elevation to be thirty-two feet high, to contain on the east side three stories, and on the side next Pennie-street two stories; the whole to be completed by the 15th of October, 1723. The foundations to be dug out three feet, and the yard paved. The old wall to be pulled down, and a new rain-water cistern erected, and a large well to be sunk. The whole being for his Maties new cooperadge, and for which Samuel Shepherd, master bricklayer, was paid two thousand four hundred ninetie-four pounds and eleven pence farthing. The coppers, &c. to be furnished by Andrew Niblett of St. Edmund the King, London, fitted the same year at 9*l.* per cwt. and 42*l.* for a cistern; and the joiners' and house-carpenters' work by Henry Stannyford, Esq. of Portsmouth, which together with all the painting was finished on Nov. 1, 1723, at a cost of 2000*l.*"

1753 and 1756. On the removal of the Cooperage to Woevil, these stores were converted into marine barracks; and in 1823-4, the old Shot-locker, and several outhouses

* Leland, Itin. viii. pp. 81—82.

in a kind of garden or close, surrounded by a lofty, ruinous stone wall, being part of the original Storehouse close, at the extremity, were demolished, and a series of new and lofty brick buildings erected on the site, for the marine artillery and officers. The whole united barracks now form a lengthened square, the principal entrance being opposite Barrack-street. In the mess-room are several good paintings: George III. by Northcote; Lord Barham, and Lord St. Vincent, by Sir W. Beechey; Earl Sandwich, by Zophani.

Several charitable funds, schools, and a library, exist in this division of royal marines.

At a short distance stand the Forehouse Barracks, for infantry, built about fifty years since, on the site of some gavel-fronted houses, with a low gallery on the outside, then used as quarters for the Invalids (or Old Fogeys). The doors were at this time so low that it was an amusement to watch them, in their enormous cocked hats, emerge from their habitations. In the reign of Elizabeth this place was vacant land, called Forehouse close. The present erection will lodge a thousand men and their officers, conveniently. It is supposed that ere long this barrack will be united to that of the royal marines.

At the upper end of Penny-street was formerly a very large timber-yard and carpenters' workshops, known as Stannyford's, and afterwards Wheeler's yard. It was purchased by Government, and immense commissariat stores erected there during the Napoleon war. In October 1825, they were converted into barracks, and first occupied by the 9th regiment (Fusileers.) The principal archway, or entrance, is opposite the Gaol; and there is a second opening into High-street. The Barracks form a square, the apartments being on three sides, and a guard-house on the fourth.

"Samuel Wheeler, proprietor, built in this place a vessel or yacht of large size, but of such breadth as allowed it to pass through the Quay, or King George's-gate. It was drawn to the water on sledges, and repeatedly caught fire, from the enormous weight and friction."

In Portsmouth are four Guard-houses: the main-guard on the Parade; a second at the Land-port; a third at the Quay, or King George's-gate; and a fourth, with other

offices, at the lower end of the High-street, which has of late been much altered by the removal of a line of arches and new modelling the front. In Portsea, the principal military stations are, a small guard near the King's-mill, some larger ones at the principal gateways, and at stated parts of the Dockyard, at Bonfire corner, &c. The Military Hospital, a small wooden erection, is in an open space near the Lion-gate; a new building has lately been added to it. Behind this hospital, on what is now waste land, were, during the war, very extensive barracks; being of wood, they were sold at the time of the Peace.

Beyond the Unicorn gate, in a large paddock, and surrounded by gardens, &c. is the Royal Laboratory, the manufactory for cartridges for the army. On the Mill-dam is a large brick building, erected a few years ago, as the offices of the royal Engineer department; within, it is very convenient and well adapted. This building is erected on ground gained from the Mill-dam; and the extensive space behind, enclosed by high walls, was, in 1800, also overflowed daily by the tide.

The Barracks for the royal engineers are at Half-way Houses, a mile distant from Portsmouth, as are also the residences of the principal officers, near the London road, where it bends towards the Lion gateway. In the same district, and contiguous to the Barracks, is the Marine Infirmary, formerly a private house.

At Tipner, three miles on the edge of the Harbour, in a very retired situation, is a small military post, for the safety of the magazines for gunpowder for the navy—an extensive range of buildings, erected in the present century, and very strongly arched and bomb-proof, and nearly surrounded with water; and to the northward of Gosport, on the Harbour edge, is a second magazine, called Priddy's Hard; a strong white building, with residences for the several officers, and a small canal, communicating with the lake or branch of the Harbour.—March 7th, 1769: "For erecting a magazine at Priddy's Hard, in Portsmouth Harbour, 4000*l.*"*

At Hilsea, the changes since the Peace have been very extensive; the wooden Barracks, capable of accommo-

* Parliamentary Estimates.

dating many thousand men, and erected at the desire of the Duke of Cumberland, have been gradually removed, excepting the Hospital and a small brick building. It now appears as an extensive airing-ground, round which has been planted a belt of trees, and the fences, &c. renovated; while at Portsbridge, the only entrance on the land side, the ancient gavel-fronted Guard-house has yielded to a modern Grecian erection, of much taste.

On the Gosport side, the military posts are principally at Haslar, behind the Naval Hospital; and at Forton, where a few years since was erected a large Military Hospital, which has since been converted into barracks. It consists of four very lofty and extensive brick pavilions, connected by arcades of great extent, with a parade ground of some acres. On the opposite square is the entrance gate, with the apartments for officers. These are the most airy and elegant barracks in the neighbourhood. The wooden Barracks at Forton, used as a French prison during the war, have been sold and removed; as have those formerly within the walls of Gosport, on the (now) open space near Woevil Brewery.

Besides the various military edifices we have here enumerated, we may add, that the mansion of the Lieutenant-Governor is in St. Thomas-street, near the wicket of the Landport-gate; consisting of a comfortable dwelling, with a garden, and all the requisite stabling, &c: it was purchased from an eminent medical character some years since, and handsomely fitted up. The office for the transaction of military business is attached to the house. The quarters of the Marine Artillery are in the centre of the High-street, next the residence of the Admiral; consisting of a large house, purchased in 1825 from the family of the late W. Turner, Esq. an eminent wine-merchant. In the garden behind are now (1827) erecting commodious Mess-rooms. The premises pass through into St. Thomas-street; and the officers have also quarters in a large house in Lombard-street. The residence of the Commandant of the Royal Marines is at the upper part of the High-street.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY, CHURCHES, CHAPELS, CONVENTUAL BUILDINGS, &c.

After the dissolution of the Monastery of Southwick, the Rectories of Portsmouth and Portsea, with the tithes of corn and grain of the whole Island of Portsea, including the hamlet of Hilsea within Portsbridge, together with the Advowsons of the Vicarages of Portsmouth and Portsea, were granted, on the 12th of July, in the 35th year of the reign of Henry VIII. to the Warden and Scholars, Clerks, of St. Mary's College, near Winchester, for ever. The lease of the tithes, and of the manor farm of Stubbington, is held under the College, by Thomas Thistlethwayte, Esq. of Southwick, and is underlet by him to John Burrell, Esq. who resides at Stubbington Lodge. The whole of the above property was previously part of the large possessions of the Prior and Convent of Southwick.—Vicarial Records.

In the centre of the town of Portsmouth stands the Parish Church, erected between 1210–20, at the instance of Peter de Rupibus, Bishop of Winton, and dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket. It is in the form of a Latin cross, the extreme length one hundred and twelve feet; the chancel in breadth forty-four feet; the nave is adorned with eight elegant Doric pillars, supporting circular arches; the two connecting the transepts being larger and higher than the others. The arched roof is decorated with bold and elegant cornices. On the centre of the larger arches appear shields, one bearing the date 1693, the other the initials M. T. B.; and on the one in front of the chancel the Portsmouth arms, above which is a large painting of the arms of William and Mary. The northern transept retains traces of the ancient Saxon arches, both on the walls and in the disposition of the windows; it is also much larger than the southern, and was not disturbed in the great alterations in 1692. Over the internal doors is the regal emblazonment; and below, a small coat of arms, blue and red, with six figures of foreign birds. "Our parish church is become a beauteous and a commodious structure: I heartily wish I could see the chancel

answer it."* With the exception of the flat ceiling, which was added at the time of the other repairs, the chancel appears much in its original state: it consists of a large centre and two small aisles, divided by ten Saxon pillars, with pilasters in the side walls, no two of which correspond, some being foliated, some adorned with lozenges, some having square, and others rounded capitals. Two of the pillars on which the original square tower rested still remain, affording beautiful examples of the clustered style. From the chancel-pillars spring arches in the pointed form of architecture, consisting of clustered ribs, while every second pillar is connected by the rib of a large circular archway in the walls; between these last-mentioned arches project foliated corbels, the centre one supported on two figures of monks' heads, with cowls on, and the hands elevated, the countenances expressive of pain. From the corbels rise elegant clustered pilasters with square capitals; and from traces still discernible in the walls, the upper part was adorned with large circular arches, and the clustered pilasters supported the groining of the ancient roof, at which time the circular, or St. Catharine's window, at the eastern end, was visible. The great window, and those on each side, are ornamented with pillars and pilasters corresponding with those below. The walls of the chancel above the arches are double, with a passage all round the church: this has been closed up (1827). In an engraving published by the Society of Antiquaries, the church of St. Thomas appears as a cluster of monastic buildings, with turrets at the corners, and the square tower in the centre, (we have no doubt the turrets still existing at the southern transept, are those of the ancient building,) but in 1690 the church underwent a complete change, the body, nave, and tower being pulled down, and the two former rebuilt under the auspices of Ambrose Stanyford, Esq. on whose sepulchral stone, in one of the side aisles, the circumstance is commemorated:—"Beneath this stone lyes the earthly remaines of Ambrose Stanyford, Esq. who, by the good providence of God, was the happy instrument of contriving, framing, and finishing the inside beauty of this house,

* MSS. of Thomas Heather, December 10, 1694.

for the glory of God, and to the comfort of his people assembled here to his worship." The organ, a remarkably fine instrument, was erected by subscription, in 1718, as appears by the date in the front, and from the subscription list, written in letters of gold, still preserved in the gallery. The organ front is very highly adorned with gilding, and a large statue of David with his harp on the summit. The church is matted throughout, warmed by stoves, and with the elegant arrangement of the chandeliers, reading-desk, &c. always commands admiration; above the pulpit, which has been lowered by the removal of a kind of wooden dome, is a large figure of an angel with a trumpet. During the last twenty-five years the interior of the church has been much improved and embellished, by new chandeliers of large size and richly gilt, the seats and pews repaired; above those appropriated to the Corporation, is a very large sculpture of the British arms, with appropriate figures of angels supporting it. The galleries in the church were erected by subscription, and are still private property; and the fronts being rounded off instead of resting on the central pillars, renders the church very light, and has an elegant effect. The Font is very ancient, adorned with quatrefoils and coats of arms, or rather shields. In the possession of the Rev. C. B. Henville is a magnificent architectural elevation of the interior of this church, taken from the rails of the altar, by Mr. Adams.

In the register-book of this parish is preserved the marriage entry of Charles II. written on vellum, in the old English character, with gilt letters finely illuminated; it is quite clear and fresh, as when first written. In 1824 it was examined by the Duke and Duchess of Clarence, and a long train of nobility; a particular account of this visit was recorded in the books by Mr. Swan, then churchwarden.

It seldom fails to attract the attention of visitors, that a sepulchral monument should, as it were, form the altar-piece of this church, but so in fact it does—the memorial to the memory of Villiers, Duke of Buckingham. It consists of an urn in the centre, (said to contain his heart,) surmounted by a phœnix; below are two figures as large as life, on each side pyramids of armour, and above, the

coronet and arms of the house of Buckingham, supported by angels;

"GEORGIO VILLERIO BUCKINGHAM. DUCI,
Qui Majoribus utrinq. clarissimis oriundus; Patre
Georgio Villerio de Brooksby in comit.
Leicestr.
Milit. Matre Maria Beaumont Buckingham.
Comitissa;
Cunctis naturæ fortunæq. Dotibus insignis
Duorum prudentissimorum Principum gratia,
suisqu. meritis
Vota suorum supergress. rerum gerendarum moli
Par, soli Invidiæ impar: dum exercitus iterum
In hostem
Parat, hoc in oppido, cædis immanissi. fatali arena,
novo cruoris & lachrimar. inundante oceano,
Nefaria perditissimi Sicarii manu
Percussus occubuit
Anno Domini 1628 mense Aug. die 23.
Viro ad omnia quæ maxima essent nato, ejusqu.
Et suis hic una confossis visceribus
Susanna Soror, Denbighiæ Comitissa
Cum Lachrymis et Luctu perpetuo p.
Anno Domini 1631.
Tu Viator, si qua tibi pietatis viscera, tam indignum
Tanti viri casum indignabundus geme
Et Vale."

A Translation by the Authors.

"To George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, who, from both parents, was most nobly descended: his father was Sir George Villiers, of Brooksby, in the county of Leicester; and his mother, Maria Beaumont, Countess of Buckingham. He enjoyed every distinguished gift of nature and fortune, with the favour of two most prudent princes. His merits surpassed even the wishes of all who knew him: he was equal to bear the mass of the most weighty affairs, and only unequal to sustain the pressure of envy. Whilst he was preparing, in this town, his army to encounter the enemy again, a merciless slaughter—that inundated the fatal shore with a new ocean of blood and tears, caused him to fall by the atrocious hand

of an accursed assassin, A. D. 1628, August 23. To this man, born to all that was great, and to his here buried remains, Susanna, his sister, Countess of Derby, with tears and perpetual mourning, erected this monument, A. D. 1631.

"Thou passenger, if possessing any bowels of compassion and indignation, lament the undeserved fate of such a man,

"And farewell."

In front of the monument is the naval anchor. "George Villiers, who was appointed Lord High Admiral on the 30th of January, 1619, used for his badge an anchor, with the cable entwined, all Or." * The cable does not appear in this monument.—During the Revolution this monument was much defaced; it has of late time been perfectly restored.

On either side of this, and in the side aisles, are a great variety of marble monuments, (many of which however require cleaning and the inscriptions restored,) more especially to the memories of Sir C. Blunt; Sir H. Willoughby; the learned and pious vicar Thomas Heather, whose portrait is still to be found in the libraries of the curious: he rebuilt the vicarage house at his own expense—much improved the Glebe lands, and, in his own words, left the vicarage much better than he found it.† That of Mr. Burgess, vicar of the parish, and we believe the founder of the alms-houses lately purchased by the Corporation for enlarging the gaol in Penny-street, "a wise and active man, who had distinguished himself by his zeal in effecting the restoration of Charles, who was selected to preach before the Parliament in Westminster Abbey on that occasion, and who was rewarded by expulsion from his living, as was a clergyman of the name of Bragg, probably his curate, on the grounds of nonconformity. He lies buried in the chancel."‡

The following letter, on the subject of the above circumstance, is highly curious:—

"Reverend Sirs,—The vicarage under your patronage becoming void by the profest nonconformity of Mr. Burgess; we thought fitt not only to advertize you there-

* Retrospective Review, 1827. † MS. Letters. ‡ Calamy.

of, but also have taken the boldness to desire you please to forbeare presenting one to supply the vacancy, for a few days yet, in regard his Royal Highness the Duke of York (under whose particular government we are) hath promised a more than ordinary care in the recommendation of a person to supply this cure; from which kindness of his R. H. we are in hopes to procure his letter of favour to yourselves, in behalf of one Mr. Loton, an orthodox conformable minister, who, besides the good opinion those of Deptford (where he lately was curate) have delivered of him, himself hath appeared here, and yesterday in our churche with good applause of his abilities, as well from the garrison as the corporation, and all other peaceable and well-affected people. Mr. Williams, the bearer, being one of the churchwardens, comes express, to give you more such farther satisfaction herein as may be requisite, and to attend the honor of your answeare, for your humble servants,

"JOHN TIMBRELL, Mayor,
"Hugh Salosbury, W. Holt, W. M. Michel,
"Edward Archer, J. S. Stevenson, Ben. Johnson.

"Portesmouth, 18 Aug. 1662."

In the chancel are escutcheons for various branches of the Buckingham, Percy, and Douglas families; and a marble slab to the memory of a Russian officer, with a Greek inscription. There are likewise many chaste mural monuments in the body of the church. At the extremity of the chancel (which is the property of the College of Winchester) is a small vestry, neatly fitted up. The chancel, and two houses at the east corner of Oyster-street, in the High-street, form part of the Stubbington property.

"A few years since, two boys, during the night, kindled a fire in this vestry, and under the communion-table, with a view to destroy the church; the diabolical attempt luckily failed. They were condemned to death at Winchester, but respited."

During the year 1826 there were recorded in this church, baptisms, 316; marriages, 146; burials, 237. And in April 1825, a petition lay open here for several days against the Catholic claims, which was signed by 3043 persons.

On February 1, 1796, it was proposed to establish a lecture on Sunday evenings; that the churchwardens should light the church, and pay the expense from the church rates. This led to a long correspondence with the Vicar, the Rev. Henry Oglander, the Bishop of Winton, and others. On April 19, 1798, permission was granted by the bishop and principals of St. Mary College (in a letter to the vicar). The lecturer to be appointed by the vicar, subject to the licence of the diocesan; the bishop having the power to put an end to the lectures when he should think fit, but not of compelling the parish to continue them, if the subscriptions should fall off. The clergyman to receive eighty pounds per annum for his services; the organist, eight guineas; the clerk, six guineas; the sexton, three; and the necessary attendants seven. These lectures commenced on Sunday evening, May 1, 1798.

Over the entrance gate of the church, at the western front of the tower, is a bold piece of sculpture, with the date 1691. Previous to the erection of the tower, a narrow buttress, at the corner of the southern transept, served for a belfry. It was opened a few years since, and was found to consist of a circular staircase, with two narrow passages to the summit. 1702, the inhabitants raised a cupola on the summit of the tower, which is now one hundred and twenty feet high; in the lanthorn is a small bell, having on its side an armorial bearing, "Quarterly, a greyhound rampant, three castles turreted," which was formerly rung (by a man who sat constantly in the lanthorn) on the appearance of a ship in the offing. It is now used as a fire-bell. Above the lanthorn is most appropriately placed as a vane, a richly gilt ship, completely rigged, about six feet in length. It was erected in 1710, as appears from an inscription on the flag of the foremast, with the letters M: C: E: S. In the dome is a small chamber, which is lighted by a number of small windows.

"From this giddy height (one hundred and twenty feet) a Mr. Murray once leaped, in a species of parachute; he reached the ground in safety, but was killed at Chichester Cathedral, in attempting a like feat of madness."

In the cupola is a very musical peal of eight bells;

five were presented by Prince George of Denmark, at the particular request of Sir George Rooke. They were removed from an old watch-tower in Dover Castle; and, after a short time, being recast, three more were added at the expense of the parish.

The following inscriptions and dates appear on the bells:—on the first, "Prosperity to all our benefactors, A. R. anno 1703;" on the second, "Peace and good neighbourhood, A. R. 1703;" on the third, "God save Queen Anne, A. R. 1703;" on the fourth, "I was cast by Joshua Kipling, in the year 1737, John Prior, William Snook, churchwardens;" on the fifth, "Abra Rudhill, of Gloucester, cast us, 1703;" on the sixth, "God save our Queen, Prince, and Fleet, Anno Domini 1703;" on the seventh, "Thos. Mears, of London, 1794, William Butler and John Parker churchwardens;" on the eighth bell, "W. Bartlett, R. Phelps, fecit, 1730, Messieurs James Yeatman and Nicholas Horwood churchwardens. We good people all, to prayers do call; we honour to King, and brides joy do bring; good tidings we tell, and ring the dead's knell." On a copper-plate in the framework is the following inscription: "The frame and hanging the bells and chimes were made by Samuel Shepherdson, of Spoondon, nere Derby, James White, Samuel Henty, wardens, Anno Domini 1703, of the same year." The clock (of large size) and the chimes were given by W. Brandon, Esq. 1703. In a part of the tower is a mutilated bust, said to be that of Charles the Second, taken from some part of the ancient church.

"The estimated expense of the seventh bell was 24*l.* The money actually paid 45*l.* 1s. 10d. including 5*l.* to a professor of music for proving it to be well-toned. It is, however, considered by the fraternity of bell-ringers to be very defective.

Previous to the erection of the dial plates of the clock, the windows of the belfry were much larger than at present. These plates were erected on April 1, 1789, by Mr. J. Irish, of Havant, at an expense of 58*l.* 8s. on the suggestion of Mr. Lang, churchwarden.

The Churchyard, which contains many fine tombs, was enclosed by brick walls in 1645. A square stone, bearing the date, and the name Steven Wheller, is in Red-lion-

lane. The side gates and piers were erected in 1768. The gates in Church-lane were erected, in 1698, by Colonel John Gibson, Lieutenant-Governor of the town, whose name appears carved on one of the stone ornaments at the top of the pier. This name was discovered in 1826, on cleaning the stone, the pier being at that time rebuilt. The elm-trees, on the northern side, were planted by Mr. Moses Hawker; the smaller ones by Mr. Thomas Slight, to replace a fine row, capriciously destroyed some years since. 1731, the porch at the chancel erected. 1809, this porch rebuilt. 1750, 1787, 1809, the tower and cupola thoroughly repaired. 1750, the north gallery in the church erected. 1826, the churchyard lowered, and its appearance much improved.

1230, Thomas Eynolf, of Portsmouth, left "to the altar of St. Thomas the Martyr fourpence, to the fabric of the church fourpence, for ever yearly; to the canons and priests various sums; to the belfry of St. Thomas twelvepence; and for lighting the image of the altar of St. Mary in the church of St. Thomas of Portsmouth, one penny yearly, for ever; and sixpence on the feast of St. Michael yearly, to the church of St. Thomas."*

"1615. Item, Sir John Burlace, Governour of Portysmuth, did gyve at the baptym of his childe, fower hangings to the churche, one for the pulpite, one for the communion table, one for the Gouernor's seat, and one for the Mayer,—too of them cloth of golde, and one of them embroidered on both sides, and one of them redd veluet; theye were opened thys 24th of August, 1615.

"1633, Item, John Trigger, churchwardene, and Roger Pricey, dide cast the fourth bell, Anno Domini 1632; and a new bibell, whiche cost thirte shillinges; and a new table cloth for the communion, whiche coste thirteene shillings.

"1636, Inventory—twoe bookes of comon prayer; Bishoppe Jewell his works; one silver chalice wy a cover to him; twoe pewter flaggons of the comunion table; twoe surplices, twoe diap tabel cloths, and two napkins of diap; one tabel cloth of branched damaske, beeing redde and yellow; one cushion and cloth belonging to the pulpite, of the same damaske; one pall, the bed of it cloth of gold;

* Will of Thomas Eynolf.

twoe faire cushions of cloth of gold, laced wy gold lace; one needle-worke cushion for the pulpit, wrought on bothe sydes wy gold silke and siluer; one cushion for the comunion tabel, of redd veluet embroaidered wy gold. These four cushions were giuen by the worthy Knight, Sir John Burlace, to remaine successively in the said churche (parish) for ever, for the use of the saide parish churche, and not otherwise. Four belles in the tower, one saint's belle on the top of the churche, twoe small belles for the quarter clocke, one greate clocke, one quarter clocke, and one pair of chimes.

"1687, Nov. 12, this day a certaine parcell of plate (the particular pieces whereof are underneath mentioned) was presented to the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of the Borough of Portesmuth, in their Town-hall assembled; wych plate was freely given by his gracious Majesty, our present Sovereign Lord, King James the Second, for the use of the parish church of Portesmuth, and is as follows:—Imprimis, two faire silver flaggons, plaine; item, one faire silver chalice; item, two faire large silver platters; item, one small silver platter; the whole parcel weighing one hundred and nineteen ounces. J. Grundy, mayor, Isaac Betts, Thos. Hancock, John Blose, Thos. Heather, Vicar, and John Taylor, churchwarden.

"1693, one large crimson velvet communion cloth with gold fringe, and two embroidered cushions, covered with similar velvet, given by Thomas Ridge, Esq.

"1694, one crimson velvet pulpit cloth, and cushion and cloth for the pulpit and reading-desk, with gold fringe and tassels, given by Nicholas Hedger, Esq. (1827—these are still in use.) One large branche of candlesticks in the church, a gift from the Hon. Sir John Gibson, Knt. Lieutenant-Governour of Portsmouth; two brass branches of candlesticks, hanging in the body of the church, presented to the parish by Captain John Suffield, with two brass sconces for the pulpit and reading-desk," (these were exchanged, in March 1806, for those in present use, the old ones not being large enough to light the church.).

"1725, two silver plates for receiving the offerings, added by subscription."—We find, on the under surface of one of the chalices, the following inscription: "Alder

John Moth, his gist to the church of Tangier, November 10, 1672;" on the front a crest, three tigers heads and a star, surmounted by a helmet, a wreath surrounding.

The following is an imperfect list of the Vicars.

A. D. 1260, Thomas Singleton.

1454, John Tone, to whom the endowment in the time of Pope Nicholas the Fifth was granted.

1657, Henry Bartlett, obiit August 25.

1662, Mr. Loton.

1673, B. Burgess, A. M. the celebrated Nonconformist, who died Nov. 24.

1674, Thomas Heather, A. M. chaplain to Charles the Second, and whose portrait is still to be found in the libraries of the curious. Ob. Nov. 30, 1696.

1696, William Ward, A. M. presented to the living under the following circumstances:—

"Westminster, Jan. 2, 1696.

"Being very much sollicited by the Governour and officers of Portsmouth for your favour to present Mr. Ward for the vicarage which is vacant and in your disposall, and knowing very well how fitt he is for that station, I cannot but earnestly recommend him to you, and am very sensible that the kindness which the Governour and officers designe for him will turn to the future advantage of your worthy society, for the prosperity of which I dayley pray, so my endeavours shall never be wanting to promote it. I heartily recommend you to God's blessing and protection, and am yours affectionately,

"To the College of Winchester." "P. WINCHEST."

To the parish of Portsmouth he proved a troublesome, meddling priest, not allowing the parishioners to meet in church, but compelled them to hold their vestries on a tombstone in the church-yard, &c.

1725, Anthony Bliss, LL. B.

1748, William Langbaine, A. M. This gentleman went into retirement, and refused to see any one for many years.

1749, Walter Bigg.

1749, Henry Tayler, A. M. (mentioned with honour in Dr. Parr's works.)

1790, Henry Oglander, B. D.

1804, Henry Sissmore, LL. B.

1815, Charles Brune Henville, A. M. &c.

The Royal Church of the Garrison (the only remains of "Domus Dei"), situate at the side of the Parade, in a slanting direction, has been lately thoroughly repaired; the ceiling heightened and rendered flat, as far as the chancel: this is built in the Saxon pointed style; the groining of the roof springing from pilasters supported on ponderous mullions. The nave is supported by ten octagonal pillars, from the capitals of which spring plain pointed arches, dividing this part of the building into three aisles; a single rib springs from mullions between each arch, some resembling roses, and one being an exact resemblance to the head of a monk in the chancel of St. Thomas's Church. The altar-piece represents Moses and Aaron in pontificals, presenting the tables of the law. This was a few years since removed, under the idea that it concealed a niche containing the high altar of the Catholic faith; this was not the case, but in a small niche on the right side, now concealed by wainscoting, was discovered the basin for holy water, &c. Queen Anne bestowed the communion plate, which is very handsome, consisting of two large flagons, two embossed cups with covers, and a dish of large size; and on the cloth used to cover the table, was emblazoned a view of Lisbon, and the royal arms of Portugal; probably a gift at the marriage of Charles the Second with the Infanta of Portugal, solemnized in this chapel.

"Our most gracious Sovereign Lord Charles the Second, by the grace of God, King of Great Britain and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. and the most illustrious Princess Donna Catarina, Infanta of Portugal, daughter to the deceased Don Juan the Fourth, and sister to the present Don Alphonso, King of Portugal, were married at Porsmouth, upon Thursday, the two-and-twentieth day of May, in the year of our Lord God 1662, being in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's reign; by the Right Rev. Father in God, Gilbert, Lord Bishop of London, Dean of His Majesty's Chapel Royal, in the presence of several of the Nobility of His Majesty's dominions and of Portugal."*

* From the register-book in St. Thomas's Church.

"Portsmouth, 21st May, 8 in the morning.

"I arrived here yesterday, about two in the afternoon, and as soon as I had shifted myself, I went to my wife's chamber.—Her face is not so exact as to be called a beauty, though her eyes are excellent good, and not any thing in her face that in the least degree can shocque one. On the contrary, she has much agreeableness in her looks altogether, as ever I saw; and, if I have any skill in physiognomy, which I think I have, she must be as good a woman as ever was born. Her conversation, as much as I can perceive, is very good; for she has wit enough, and a most agreeable voice. You would much wonder to see how well we are acquainted already. In a word, I think myself very happy, and I am confident our two humours will agree very well together. I have no time to say any more. My Lord-Lieutenant will give you an account of the rest. "C. R."

"To my Lord Clarendon."

"I followed in the crowde of gallants through the Queen's lodgings to chapel, the rooms being all rarely furnished, and escaped hardly being set fire to yesterday. At chapel we had a most eloquent sermon. The Mayor, Mr. Timbrell, our anchorsmith, showed me the present they have for the Queen; a saltcellar of silver, the walls chrystal, with four eagles and four greyhounds standing up at the top to bear up the dish. I lay at Weard's, the chyrurgien's in Portsmouth." *

The windows in the chancel, and the great window above the altar, are adorned with plain pillars, having round capitals. The Governor's seat is decorated with a profusion of carving in wood, as are many of the pews. On a medallion in front appear the initials in gold A. R. Her Majesty's arms were formerly in the ceiling, on a very large painting. In this church are many mural monuments worthy of notice, to the memories of naval and military officers. The cemetery is in front of the building, enclosed by high walls; it formerly extended over a large part of the Parade, in the formation of which, and laying the foundations of the new Ramparts, in 1733–4, a large quantity of human bones were disturbed. On the

* Memoirs of Samuel Pepys.

removal of the Government-house, a portion of the chancel of this church was exposed, and exhibited three large Saxon windows closed up, but which corresponded with those of the opposite side; through one, a passage had been made to the Governor's pew or gallery; below was a very small conventual doorway, closed by brickwork, and a small buttress in the angle with loopholes.

"Hospitale de Portesmuth—Petrus de Rupibus Episcopus Winton primus fundator."*

"There is a Chapelle in a vacant ground to the south-west syde of the towne towards the waulle and shore. There is also in the west-south-west part of the toun a faire Hospital, some tyme erected by Petrus de Rupibus, Bisshop of Winchester, wheryn were xij poore men, and yet vj be yn it."†

Jan. 21, 1826—the Government-house began to be demolished this morning; and on March the 18th, 1826, was entirely destroyed. The only remains of antiquity discovered were two very low pointed Saxon arches, which had been incorporated with modern brickwork, the groining still forming the ceilings of wine-cellars: a few coins were found, which are in the possession of Mr. Hoare.

"The hall of the Government-house is artificially hung round with arms of all sorts, like the hall and keep at Windsor."‡ We possess a small drawing of the mansion previous to the command of Sir W. Pitt, who altered the external appearance materially, as did also the Earl of Pembroke: it was for many years uninhabited, except a small part retained for the Town-major. His late Majesty held his court in this house; as did his present Majesty, during the Imperial visit in 1814.

The walls of the mansion were three feet nine inches thick; it contained forty-three apartments. The new part of the building was elevated on a platform, two feet above that which fronted the Parade, which exhibited a plain extensive front, with a balcony in the centre, supported by four small stone pillars. (There was in 1760 a double flight of stone steps.) In the first-floor was a dining-room, and a large and lofty hall, lighted by a sky-

* Camden, p. 268. Leland's Collectanea, p. 76 et p. 114.
† Leland's Itinerary, vol. iii. p. 112. edit. 1769. ‡ Evelyn.

light elevated above the roof; in which were formerly held all public assemblies:—at one extremity near the Church was a square turret. The building extended backward a long distance, exhibiting architecture of different periods, with some lofty chimneys of remarkable shapes. At the side was a doorway under an arch; and farther on, a second up a flight of steps leading to a kind of hall, supported by pillars. The domestic offices were very spacious, and attached to it some large gardens, with hothouses, &c. with a close of meadow-land, extending from Penny-street and Green-row to the Fortifications. In one of the gardens is a mulberry-tree, split in a remarkable manner.

1800. There were several fine poplars round the house and under the Church walls, with a profusion of flowering shrubs in a small enclosure or garden. In the possession of Sir George Garrett, is a large painting of the front of the house, with part of the church, painted on the occasion of the presentation of colours to the Garrison Volunteers by the lady of W. Garrett, Esq.

Thursday, June 3rd, 1814—the Imperial visit. The Regent of England, the Emperor of Russia, the King of Prussia, Blucher, and their suites, the English and foreign Dukes and Princes, came into the balcony, each with a glass of wine, and drank to the assembled thousands amidst such thunders of applause as gave the scene the most astounding character. The illumination was most superb. In front of the building appeared the word PEACE; two brilliant stars; and above, the initials A and F, with wreaths of laurel, surmounted by a crown and star; and a large transparency of the letter A. The windows, parapets, and columns of the west and south fronts were also covered with lamps; the whole producing an effect which, for three nights, astonished thousands: the number of lamps used being 13,348.

Deed concerning the jurisdiction of the Parish Church.

"To all the sons of holy mother church, Master Alanus de Stokes, Deputy Archdeacon of Peter, Lord Bishop of Winchester, greeting in the Lord:—

"Be it known to all, that every controversy argued before any judges, between the Prior and Convent of South-

wick on one part, and the Master and Brothers of the Hospital of God's House of Portsmuth on the other, concerning the jurisdiction of the Parish Church of Portsmouth, is amicably settled after this form before us:

"The said prior and convent agree, that in the aforesaid hospital divine service may be celebrated, according to the rite of their parish church of Portsmouth, by two priests, as also by the governor of the hospital, if he be a priest; and if any foreign priest visiting the same for the purpose of seeing kinsman or relation, shall wish, it shall be lawful for him to assist at the same; and they may have two bells, not exceeding the weight of the bells of the mother church, which shall ring at matins, and missals, and vespers, and for the dead. And after the bells of the new mother church have rung, the said brothers shall not receive the parishioners of Portsmouth to confession, nor to communion of the body of Christ, unless any sick person shall wish and particularly ask confession of any priest of the hospital, (the requisite consent of the parish priest being obtained, it shall not be denied him). They shall not receive any stranger to confession publicly in Lent, except the brothers, sisters, family, sick persons at the time, and inmates. Nevertheless if any stranger shall seek advice from any priest of the hospital, it shall be lawful to receive him privately. Moreover, on Sundays, and on the eight great festivals, namely, the Birth-day of our Lord, the Epiphany, the Purification, the Assumption of the Blessed Mary, the Ascension of our Lord, the Birth-day of the Blessed Mary, and the Feasts of All Saints, the brothers of the aforesaid hospital shall not receive the parishioners of Portsmouth. If, however, it shall happen, that any of the aforesaid parishioners shall come to hear divine service on the aforesaid festivals, or on Sundays, at the aforesaid hospital, they shall be admitted, and their offering, if any be brought, shall be restored whole and entire to the mother church, under the penalty hereunder expressed, unless the said parishioners shall first have made satisfaction to the aforesaid mother church.

"Moreover it shall not be lawful for any one of the said hospital to enter ships, or give benediction, or read the gospel or beg alms after reading it, the gospel being

read and rites performed by the chaplain of the mother church. Moreover the aforesaid canons agree, that the hospital shall have a cemetery for the brothers and also for the sisters of the said hospital, and for families and poor persons and others dying in the said hospital: but we mean brothers and sisters after this reading—those who have put on the same habit, and have put it off, or those who have bequeathed their estates to the said hospital. Nevertheless, if any stranger shall choose to be interred at the said hospital, it shall be lawful for them to receive them, provided the body shall be first carried to the mother church, and mass celebrated there. And be it known, that it becomes the parishioners of Portsmouth to leave their first legacy to the mother church, and the parish priest should hold the Will of the parishioners safe from loss; nor that the mother church will suffer by this concession, the brothers of the said hospital shall pay to the mother church every year for ever twenty shillings sterling, at the four quarters of the year, namely, five shillings at the feast of St. Michael, five shillings at the Circumcision of our Lord, at the Passover five shillings, and at the feast of St. John the Baptist five shillings; and for the greater security the said brothers have taken their corporal oaths, the Evangelists being touched; bound themselves under a stipulated penalty, to wit, forty shillings to be paid to the prior and convent, if any crime be committed; but if after the sinning against this canon law they shall not give satisfaction within eight days, the sin committed is acquitted without contradiction to the said prior and convent.

"And that all these things may be understood on the part of the prior and convent, this deed is executed in the first year after the decease of Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury, and in testimony of which the parties present have strengthened the deed with their seals; and, the Lord Bishop of Winchester being absent, we by his authority confirm and sign our seal, together with the signet of Master B. Archive of the same place.—These being the witnesses, Master A. de Eblesburn, Master R.—Canon; Master J. Walingford, R. Deacon of Winchester, W. Capel, Deacon, and many others."

1378, a brother, or probably two brothers in succession, of William of Wickham, were wardens of the Hospital of St. Nicholas in Portesmuth; and in the will of the princely prelate appears the following legacy, dated 1404: —"I bequeath to the Hospitall of St. Nicholas at Portsmouth, one suit of vestments, with a chalice." On the suppression of the Templar Knights, Uggeton, a manor in the Isle of Wight, was given to God's House. By a deed in 1272, from Richard le Cenceror of Portesmuth, to God and the church of the blessed Mary of Suwyk, the brothers of God's House, for a piece of land granted to the said convent, received yearly for ever three silver pennies, paid on the feast of St. Michael. In 1276, by deed from Robert de Sanctus Dionysius, of Portesmuth, to Ada de Stobiton, the said brothers received for a house and its appurtenances in the High-street, four silver shillings yearly for ever, to be paid on the feast of St. Michael and John the Baptist.

1238, Peter de Rupibus, Bishop of Winchester, founded in the west-south-west part of the town a faire Hospital.*—Peter de Rupi bus, ishop of Winchester, founded at Portsmouth, temp. Joannis, a famous hospital called God's House, which was dedicated to St. John the Baptist and St. Nicholas, and valued, 26 Henry VIII. at 33*l.* 19s. 5d. ob. per annum.† Speed adds also a College here, founded by this Bishop; there is, however, no other account of it. The head of the Hospital was sometimes called the Prior.‡ This house was in the patronage of the Bishop of Winchester temp. Joannis (John) de Pontissara Episc. as MS. Rivers.

"Rot. Pat. 15 Joann. n. 24, pro messuagiis, &c. ex dono Will. de Wrothem Archidiaconi Taunton. Pat. 16 Joan. p. 1, m. 6, n. 37. Fin. div. com. 9 Hen. III. n. 38, de terris in Winton. Portesmuth. Plac. coram justit. itin. (Southamp.) 20 Hen. III. rot. 24. Pat. 20 Hen. III. m. 15. Pat. 37 Hen. III. m. 2 vel 3. Fin. div. com. 52 Hen. III. m. 21, pro man. de Lottenhem, Dorset. Pat. 12 Edw. I. m. 11. Pat. 13 Edw. I. m. 14 vel 15. Plac. in banco 27 Edw. I. rot. 118 de medietat. maner. de Lafham. Pat. 35 Edw. I. n. 8, pro lib. war. in Portesmuth, Foderington (Fratton), et Feldushe. Pat. 10 Edw. II. n. 5, pro advoc. concess. Episcop. Winton. Pat. 15 Edw. III. p. 1, m. 24 vel 25, de manerio

* Matth. Paris. † Dugdale and Speed.
‡ Patent Rolls 22 Edward III.

de Brigàton. Pat. 22 Edw. III. p. 2, m. 42, de 5*l.* annuatim percipiend. è terris Will. Overton in Le Frenchmore juxta Brighton. Claus. 35 Edw. III. m. 28 dorso. Claus. 7 Ric. II. m... dorso. Claus. 11 Ric. II. m. 12 dorso. de advoc. concess. Episcop. Winton. 12 Edw. I." Tanner, Notitia Monastica, edited by Nasmith.

Land belonging to the Hospital of Domus Dei, in the several furlongs and common fields of Portsmouth, as taken in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, amounting to seventy acres.

"Catelife Furlonge, God's House, Portesmuth..	iij	di Aker
Chilmer Furlonge (North) ditto	j	Stich
Black Thorne Furlonge (South) ditto.....		di Aker
God's House Furlonge (North) ditto	vj	Akers
Full Sea Furlonge (West) ditto		di Aker
Foutorne Furlonge (West) ditto	j	Aker
Wett Furlonge (East) ditto	iij	Akers
Water Furlonge (West) ditto	iij	di Akers
Peckshall Furlonge (West) ditto.....	vj	Akers
Kingwelrose Furlonge (West) ditto	j	Aker
Newgate Furlonge (North to the Railes) ditto	j	di Aker
Short Broome Furlonge (South) ditto		di Aker
Mill Stile Furlonge (West) ditto		di Aker
St. Andrew Furlonge (East) ditto	viij	di Akers
Shovell Furlonge (West) ditto		di Aker
Lake Furlonge (East) ditto.....	vij	di Akers
Kingwell Furlonge (North) ditto	iij	Akers
Close Furlonge (East) ditto.....		di Aker
Reddish Furlonge (North)		di Aker
Gore Furlonge (South) ditto	j	di Aker
Lake Furlonge (West) ditto	v	di Akers
Pease Furlonge (West) ditto	ij	Akers
Copner Furlonge (South) ditto		di Aker
Bramble Furlonge (West) ditto.....	ij	di Akers
Stobington Furlonge (North) ditto	j	di Aker
North Streete Furlonge (North) ditto.....	ij	Akers
South Streete Furlonge (North) ditto.....	iij	di Akers
Abram Furlonge (West) ditto.....	j	di Aker
White bedde Furlonge (West) ditto	j	Aker
Curges Crofte ditto	j	di Aker."

At the back of Landport terrace, Southsea, in St. Paul's-square, on a piece of land, the free gift of Daniel and Henry Hewitt, Esqrs. stands St. Paul's Church, a noble specimen of Gothic architecture, erected by the Commissioners for building new churches, from a design of Francis Goodwin, Esq. architect. The church is in length ninety-four feet, in width sixty, exclusive of the staircases, corridor, vestry, &c. The exterior of the

church is of Bath-stone, with four highly-ornamented turrets at the corners, eighty feet in height. The windows on the sides are of noble proportions, the frames of ornamented cast-iron. The western front adorned with a lofty window; carved niches on each side the centre doorway, with the portals of the galleries. The projecting cornices, buttresses, and turrets, exhibit a splendid specimen of the simple or plain Gothic. The eastern front is beautified in a similar manner, having an immense circular window in the centre, and projecting vestries below, and the whole is surrounded by the finest series of iron railway in Hampshire, the workmanship of Mr. Evans, erected at a cost of 400*l.* The interior of the fabric is plain yet elegant; the ceiling coved, springing from each side, intersected by the pointed arches of the windows, unsupported by pillars, and adorned with suitable cornices. The galleries, which contain nine hundred free sittings for the poor, the seats for the charity children and the choir, are supported by small cast-iron Gothic pillars. In front of the west window an organ was erected by subscription in 1827. The lower part of the church is pewed, and affords accommodation for eleven hundred persons. These pews are let for the support of the officiating minister. The cost of this church was, contract price 13,814*l.* extras 2155*l.* 13*s.* 2½*d.* exclusive of the rails or palisades.

The church was consecrated on Friday morning, Oct. 25th, 1822, by Tomline, Lord Bishop of Winchester, attended by the Chancellor and customary officers; a grand selection of music being performed; the Rev. L. Grant, LL.B. of New College, Oxford, who had been appointed by the vicar the first minister, officiating, and the Rev. J. H. Cumyns, sequestrator of the vicarage, preaching the sermon. The attendance on the occasion was immense. The church was opened for divine service on the Sunday following.

A fine painting of St. Paul has been placed (1827) above the communion table, by subscription of a few spirited individuals. There is great propriety and fitness in the choice of the subject, viz. the Shipwreck of St. Paul on the Island of Melita; and the moment seized on by the artist is that in which the Saint returns thanks to

the Almighty for the wonderful deliverance. The composition of the picture is grand and simple, and tells its story plainly and distinctly. A dignified figure of St. Paul occupies the centre, in an attitude highly expressive of pious and grateful emotion. The ardour of his character is naturally somewhat abated, from the peculiar circumstances of the moment; but the outstretched hand and raised countenance, in which strong confidence and deep feeling are admirably blended, well express the softened zeal and subdued intrepidity of the rescued apostle. The head is finely drawn, great delicacy is displayed in its colouring, and much force in marking the expression. The manner of the drapery is that of the old masters, full of breadth, and producing a fine variety of light and shade. The whole picture indeed evinces great knowledge in the artist, of nature, as well as of the antique: its general impression is that of sacredness and dignity. It was painted by Mr. Charles Skottowe, who has attained considerable celebrity as a portrait-painter at Cork. The picture measures nine feet by six; the height of the figure six feet four inches.

The bell was presented by Thomas Thistlethwayte, Esq. of Southwick; and the elegant communion service of silver plate by the Rev. the Vicar. On the flagon is the following inscription: "Poculum hoc, cum duobus alteris, et duabus Patinis, in usum hujus Capellæ Parochialis D. D. Carolus Brune Henville, A.M. Vicarius de Portsea, MDCCCXXIII."

At Mile End, on the London road, stands All Saints Church, erected in 1826-7, by the Commissioners. The site of this elegant edifice was the property, severally, of Lord Viscount Powerscourt, the College of St. Mary, Herbert Allen, Esq. and Mr. T. Gloge, in common field —the two former proprietors presented their shares to the church, and from the two latter the interest was purchased by the parish. The Rev. R. H. Cumyns, A. B. of All Souls College, Oxon. was appointed by the Vicar the first minister. The church is in the florid style of Gothic architecture, having above the principal front a tower supported and adorned by flying buttresses (it was originally intended to have a lofty tower, but this

plan was not approved). The contract price for this building was 12,064*l.* extras about 100*l.* and the cost of the iron palisade fence 309*l.*; and both this and St. Paul's were built by the same contractors, Messrs. Ellis and Absalom, of Portsea. In its internal arrangement it partakes much of the same character as St. Paul's church. The splendid and magnificent east window above the altar, twenty-three feet in height and fifteen in breadth, executed in stained glass by Mr. James Edwards, of Winchester, represents in six compartments, under rich canopies, and standing on Gothic pedestals, the four Evangelists, and the apostles St. Peter and St. Paul, recognized by their peculiar symbolic emblems. In the upper circular part are six angels, bearing alternately a celestial crown, a harp, and a trumpet. The tracery work is filled up by ornamental Gothic designs, and on each side are the heraldic bearings of the episcopal see of Winchester, the college of St. Mary (the arms of William of Wickham) and the vicar of Portsea, the ordinary, patron, and incumbent. The whole of this exquisitely-finished and brilliant window was erected at the sole expense of the Rev. C. B. Henville, the vicar. The following is the inscription on the brass plate let into the foundation-stone:—"Hoc Templum Parochiale sacris dicatum construendum decrevit, privatis opibus adjuta, Britanniarum Senatûs munificentia. Primum hunc operis lapidem posuit Carolus Brune Henville, A. M. Vicarius de Portsea, die xxiv. Junii, anno Regis Georgii IV. sexto, A. S. MDCCCXXV. Jacob. Owen, architecto."

Subscribers for building new Churches in the Parish of Portsea.

	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Admiralty, Rt. Hon. Lords Commiss^rs	200	0	0	Burgess, Mrs. Eliza ..	2	0	0
Allnutt, Mr. Samuel	1	1	0	Burges, Mrs. Elizabeth	2	0	0
Arnaud, Messrs. E. and E. B.	20	0	0	Cape, Rev. J.	5	5	0
Atcheson, Mr. N.	5	5	0	Carter, J. Esq M.P...	10	0	0
Bishop, Mr Hugh ..	2	2	0	Carter, Mr. Edward ..	10	0	0
Blackburn, Mr. C.....	5	5	0	Carter, Mrs. S.	1	0	0
Boville, Messrs. S. & J.	2	2	0	Carter, Mrs. Sarah ..	1	0	0
Bradley, Mr. J.	5	5	0	Cockburn, Sir G. K.G.C.	10	0	0
				Compton, Mr. T.	1	1	0
				Cooper, Mr. W.	5	5	0

Subscribers for building new Churches.

	£.	s.	d.
Cull, Mr.	5	5	0
Cumyns, Rev. R. H.	20	0	0
Cunningham, Mrs.	3	3	0
Curtis, Mr. Jacob	3	3	0
Davey, Mr. J.	2	0	0
Dusautoy, Rev. W. S.	1	1	0
Garrett, Sir George	10	10	0
Gauntlett, Rev. Dr.	200	0	0
Goldsmith, Mr. James	5	0	0
Goldsmith, Mrs. S.	5	0	0
Grant, Rev. Robert	5	5	0
Grant, Messrs. and Co.	21	0	0
Grant, Mr. Thomas	10	10	0
Hall, Captain, R. N.	20	0	0
Hancock, Mrs. Mary	10	10	0
Harrison, Rev. J.	5	0	0
Hayward, Mr.	5	5	0
Helleyer, Mr. Henry	2	0	0
Henville, Rev. C. B.	70	0	0
Henville, Rev. James	10	10	0
Hoffmeister, Mr. C. W.	5	0	0
Huish, Miss	10	0	0
Inman, Rev. Dr.	5	0	0
King, Mr. George	2	2	0
Kitson, Mr. John	5	0	0
Knott, Mr. Thomas	5	0	0
Lara, Dr.	10	10	0
Lind, Dr.	26	5	0
Lindegren, Mr. John	10	10	0
Littlejohns, Mr. Isaac	2	2	0
Lloyd, Rev. D.	5	0	0
Martin, Mr. P.	5	0	0
Mathews, Mr. Charles	5	0	0
Morgan, Rev. Dr.	10	0	0
Naylor, Mr. Edward	1	1	0
Newton, Mr. W.	5	0	0
Owen, Mr. Jacob	5	5	0
Paffoot, Mr. Charles	5	0	0
Pearce, Mr. William	5	0	0
Poulden, Mr. A.	10	10	0
Pratt & Sons, Messrs.	10	10	0
Rennel, very Rev. Dean of Winchester	10	10	0
Searle, Mr. A.	5	0	0
Seeds, Mr. Thomas	5	0	0
Sheppard, Mrs.	52	10	0
Smith, Mr.	1	1	0
Smithers, Mr. John	2	2	0
Soaper, Mr. G.	10	0	0
Spicer, Sir S.	50	0	0
Stigant, Mr. William	2	2	0
Tate, Rev. William	10	0	0
Temple, Mr. R. G.	10	0	0
Thomas, Mrs. Mary	1	0	0
Toriano, Capt.	2	0	0
Turner, Mr. George	1	1	0
Watson, Major, R. M.	5	5	0
Winchester, Warden and Fellows of	200	0	0
Winchester, Dean and Chapter of	20	0	0

In the centre of the square at Portsea, to which it has given a name, stands St. George's Church, built by subscription, and under the provisions of an act of parliament in 1753. It is a handsome well-built brick structure, sixty-four feet square, containing two tiers of five large windows, and a noble Venetian window behind the communion-table. The interior is neat and well adapted; four elegant pillars support the centre; it is well pewed, and the galleries are arranged on three sides, in the front one of which was erected in 1773 a beautiful and well-toned organ. It has lately undergone repair, more especially the front and cupola above. The whole is enclosed by a lofty wall and gates, behind which are some

noble poplar-trees. The ground on which it stands was granted from the Corporation of Portsmouth for one thousand years. The nomination of the clergyman is vested in the vicar of Portsea; but in case of lapse, in the proprietors of the seats.

In Prince George's-street, Portsea, was erected by subscription the Church of St. John, commenced in 1787, and consecrated by the Bishop of Winchester in 1789. Externally it presents a fine elevation, the front embellished with a large Venetian window and fan-light over the entrance. The two stories on each side have each two elegant windows and wings containing the staircases; and there is a large clock and bell in a lofty and noble cupola above the grand entrance. The interior is in the most florid and exquisite style of Venetian architecture. In four of the six compartments dividing the side-walls are large sash-windows, both above and below; a spacious gallery, supported by small columns and enlightened by a large window, extends round three sides; the communion-table, which is of marble, is in a semicircular recess, separated by a screen of fluted Corinthian columns from the body of the church, and on each side are doors leading to the vestry and organ-gallery above, in which is a noble and costly instrument. The recess is highly decorated in imitation of marble, and on the pannels are appropriate scriptural texts, &c. The cornices and pannels are of stucco, and the arched ceiling is supported by four highly decorated Corinthian columns, with their acanthus, &c.: the highly finished cornices are exceedingly decorative and appropriate; while the splendid chandeliers, elegant pulpit and reading-desk, and the pews adorned with mahogany, render this fabric most impressive to every person of real taste. Attached is a commodious residence for the minister, in the same style of magnificent architecture. It was projected and erected by two eminent architects, John Monday and John Sheen, from designs of Mr. Vass.

One mile from the town, at Buckland, is the Parish Church of Portsea, dedicated to St. Mary, and commonly called Kingston Church, from the hamlet or village surrounding it—a venerable building, but nothing very par-

ticular in its architecture. It is said to have been built in the reign of the third Edward. There is a square tower of modern date, containing a ring of bells. It is surrounded by the largest cemetery in the kingdom, containing eight acres, in the south-east part of which a great number of the sufferers in the wreck of the Royal George are interred in one grave, above which is a handsome monument with an appropriate inscription. The churchyard is surrounded by lofty elms; and opposite the gateway is the vicarage-house. The church was anciently called "Portissage," and though above four hundred years old, was painted for the first time in 1824. The whole of the chancel belongs to St. Mary College, Winton; and on the pew allotted to Stubbington parsonage appear the armorial bearings of the princely prelate William of Wykeham. The clock in the tower was given by Thomas Fitzherbert, Esq. of Stubbington, and part of the communion-plate by the Rev. Dr. Backshell, a former vicar. The cemetery has been thrice enlarged; in 1782 by the addition of two acres on the south-east, and in 1812 two acres on the north side. Being the only cemetery for the parish, it is crowded with tombs: eight hundred burials take place in it every year; it is kept clean, decent and neat.

In order to enlarge the vicarial precincts at Kingston, and to remove the nuisance of an alehouse closely adjoining the vicarage-garden, the late vicar, the Rev. Dr. Gauntlett, purchased certain lands and tenements, and by his will, in 1822, secured them to his successors for ever. This judicious benefaction is alluded to in the following inscription on his monument in the parish church:—

"M. S.
SAMUELIS GAUNTLETT, S. T. P.
Collegii Novi Oxon. Custodis,
Per annos XXXVIII. Vicarii de Portsea.
Obiit die XVI Septembris,
A. S. MDCCCXXII.
Propter Beneficia sibi, posterisque
Sacra hic ministrantibus collata,
Hoc qualecunque pietatis
Monumentum

P. C.
Carolus Brune Henville, A. M.
Collegii Wintoniensis Socius,
Hujus Ecclesiæ Vicarius."

In the southern part of Gosport, near the Haslar gateway, in a large cemetery well planted with trees, stands the Church of the Holy Trinity, built in 1694, as a chapelry to Alverstoke, and considerably lengthened in 1730. It is built of brick with arched windows, and a low roof, formed of ragstone, in the Dutch style; above the entrance is a cupola. The interior consists of three aisles, separated by lofty pillars and arches, and the ceiling is arched. The communion-table is in a circular recess, with a painted ceiling and gilded cornice.

"In the gallery above the entrance is a very fine organ, built under the immediate inspection of Handel, for his own private use. At his decease it was purchased by the Duke of Chandos, and was placed in the chapel of "Timon's Villa," at Cannons; and after having become the property of a broker, was purchased for the church at Gosport for a very trifling sum."

The Parish Church of Gosport is situated at Alverstoke or Stoke, two miles from the town, and is a very ancient structure in the Saxon style. It contains many curious monuments, and above the communion-table is an altar-piece representing the Lord's Supper. The cemetery is very large, and a second piece of land has been lately consecrated to a like purpose. The rectory-house is near the church.

The Independent Chapel at Gosport is a handsome, spacious brick edifice, in the High-street, capable of seating twelve hundred persons. The first minister was the Rev. Walter Marshall, fellow of New College, Oxon. vicar of Hursley, from which he was ejected by the act of uniformity. He became pastor of a dissenting congregation at Gosport, and continued so till his death in 1690. The next minister was Mr. John Clifford, from Wimborne, who officiated for thirty years, and who purchased and dedicated to the use of the succeeding pastors of the chapel a handsome and respectable house at the upper end of the High-street. His successor was the son of an independent London minister, by

name Mr. John Harrison. After a lapse of twelve years Mr. Thomas Williams became pastor, in whose room James Watson (son of Dr. James Watson) was chosen minister. This gentleman continued at Gosport, however, only six years; for, entering on the study of the law, he was for many years a barrister, became M.P. was knighted, and appointed Judge of the Supreme Court of Bengal, where he died. In 1777 Sir James Watson was succeeded in the ministry by the Rev. David Bogue, a man of great erudition and piety. His work on the divine authority of the New Testament is much esteemed, and has been translated into many of the Continental languages. Of this work a celebrated infidel remarked that David Bogue had done more in favour of the divine authority of the New Testament than St. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John put together. The Doctor was also author of Sermons, in one volume; a tract, "Reasons for seeking a repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts;" and (in conjunction with Dr. Bennett) of the History of Dissenters. He was one of the founders of the London Missionary Society, and as tutor, educated at different times one hundred and sixty students for the ministry. He died in October 1825; and a public funeral attended by the directors of the London Missionary Society, by nearly all the dissenting ministers of Hampshire, and by thousands of people of all denominations, together with the closing of the shops and houses in Gosport and the neighbourhood, testified the respect and affection of his congregation for the memory of so good a man.

The Presbyterian Chapel of Gosport was opened July 4th, 1827, when the very Rev. the Moderator of the London Presbytery of the Church of Scotland officiated. It stands on the site of the old theatre, which was purchased and converted to its present use, and the walls of which still form the south and west sides. It will seat eight hundred persons, and contain one thousand. The congregation consists of the greater part of the people of the late Dr. Bogue, who were divided in opinion with the rest as to the choice of his successor. The majority, in consequence of this difference, and the evils which they had witnessed in connection with the Independent form of church government, left the minority in possession of

the old chapel, and formed themselves into a church of the Presbyterian order, choosing for their minister the Rev. Thomas Macconnell, the first probationer for the pulpit of Dr. Bogue. Service three times on the Sabbath-day, and once in the week.

In 1676, on August 2d, the first register of baptism performed in the Presbyterian chapel in Penny-street, Portsmouth, is attested by Mr. John Hicks, of Trinity college, Dublin; but it is unknown at what precise period the building was erected. This Mr. Hicks was the memorable refugee in the house of Lady Lisle, during Monmouth's rebellion; and his being discovered there, the cause of the death of the venerable lady, by order of the infamous Judge Jefferies. He was succeeded in the ministry of the chapel by Mr. Thomas Clark, who had been ejected from the vicarage of Godshill. He settled at Portsmouth in 1682, and continued his ministry till 1690—"an intelligent man, of pleasing manners, and remarkable for a happy vein of humour in conversation." The next minister was Mr. Francis Williams, from 1690 till 1703. During his ministry a public disputation was held on the subject of baptism, by permission of the Lieut.-governor, Colonel John Gibson, and Henry Seager, Esq. mayor, and in their presence, in 1699, the records of which, published by each party, may still be found. In 1707 the Rev. Simon Brown was ordained pastor; the congregation still meeting in the chapel in Penny-street. [Part of the brewery of Pike and Co. now occupies the site.] He filled the situation with zeal, talent, and respectability, publishing in this town in 1708 a Caveat against evil Company; and in 1709 "The true Character of the real Christian or sincere good man." In 1716 he removed to London, and on his departure the old chapel was pulled down, and the principal portion of the materials used in constructing the new edifice in the High-street, which was finished at an expense of upwards of a thousand pounds in 1718. In the "Adventurer" is an interesting account of Mr. Brown, who laboured for years under the delusion that God had deprived him of his rational soul. He was succeeded by the Rev. John Norman, who ministered from August 1716 till 1756, and lies buried in Portsmouth churchyard. Dr. Wrenne was the next minister,

ordained January 9th, 1757, died October 27th, 1787, and was the first person interred in the ground surrounding the chapel. During the first American war, Dr. Wrenne received the unanimous thanks of Congress, for his humane attention to the prisoners of war, subjects of the United States. The Rev. Russell Scott was chosen minister in January 1788, commenced his labours in March of the same year, and still continues to preside over the congregation with great respectability. To this last gentleman we are indebted for much of the information above, communicated in the most handsome and liberal manner.—This building, now denominated the Unitarian Chapel, (behind which is a vestry and large library) is a neat brick edifice, at the upper end of the High-street, having a large doorway, and three arched windows in front, and a circular parapet, in the Dutch style of architecture. Until 1822 it was hidden from the street by a high wall and closed gates, behind which were a number of lofty poplar trees. Becoming in bad repair, it was, in 1822, restored and beautified, by means of a most liberal subscription of more than 1100*l.* The wall was removed, and handsome gates and iron palisades substituted; but the fine trees, which served to shade the chapel from the sun, and gave an air of solemnity to the edifice, were cut down. A square tablet in front marks the date of the reparation, as does also a Latin inscription above the doors. The interior is neat and elegant, with galleries on three sides; in it are tablets to the memory of Dr. Wrenne, and Dr. Silver, an eminent physician. A mural marble monument, with letters of gold, marks the place of interment (in the chapel-yard, which is very confined) of the late Sir John Carter, knight, who died May 18, 1808, aged eighty-seven. He was alderman, nine times mayor of this his native town, a magistrate for the county, for which he was also sheriff in 1784. His memory needs no eulogium from our feeble pen.

The Chapel of the General Baptists was built in 1715, the society having existed in the town from the dawn of nonconformity. Its situation, on the site of an older chapel in a retired court near the Post-office, points backwards to the times of religious persecution, when

these edifices existed only by connivance of the ruling powers. A convenient baptistery was erected in it about 1750. Previously, baptism by immersion was administered in a small piece of water in the orchard of Eastney Farm, which was many years in the possession of Mr. Osmond, one of the society. The successive pastors have been Messrs. Bowes, Sturch, Austen, Mills, and Joseph Brent.

The original Chapel of the Wesleyan Methodists in Portsmouth was in Oyster-street, and was opened by John Wesley himself, in 1788; but being soon found too small, it was sold by auction, and is now converted into a large store; the form and shape are not however altered. The new chapel, in Green-row, was erected in 1810–11; opened on May 1, 1811; the expense of the ground and building being 7000*l.* The principal front is formed of white brick, with a handsome parapet; having two entrances, and three windows below, and five large arched windows above. The interior is sixty-eight feet long, and fifty broad, with galleries extending all round: in the one above the communion-table was erected, in 1826, a small well-toned organ. The chapel will contain two thousand persons. It is pewed throughout, very commodious, and well lighted; behind are large rooms for schools, commenced in 1808; a vestry; and, in St. Nicholas-street, a handsome residence for the minister. On the site of this chapel was formerly a Quaker's meeting-house. In Middle-street, Gosport, is another large chapel of the Methodist connexion. In Daniel-street, Portsea, is a third large chapel, purchased by the "Methodists" a few years since, and still used by them. It is a neat, white brick building, nearly of the same size and character as that above described. Over the principal front was, a short time since, a square cupola, with a gigantic figure of St. Peter, holding in his hand a key—from which the chapel acquired the name of "St. Peter's." It was originally a free church, erected by subscription for the use of an eccentric clergyman, named Pennington, who had attracted many followers; first by preaching in the open air, and afterwards in a private room. The Church of England forms were adhered to, but the church was exempt from episcopal jurisdiction. In it was an organ,

remarkable for the peculiar beauty of its tone: it was sold for a trifling sum when the church was purchased by the Wesleyan Methodists. A new one has been lately erected, but it will bear no comparison with the original instrument. In Middle-street, Gosport, is another large chapel, built within a few years, handsome, yet plain and simple.

In King-street, Portsea, is the Chapel of the Independents; a very large and lofty structure, ninety-five feet long, and seventy-five broad. It will seat two thousand five hundred hearers, and contain, when crowded, three thousand. The expense of its erection was between 10 and 11,000*l.*; and it was opened for public worship on September 8, 1813.

The old chapel in Orange-street has been converted into Sunday school-rooms and alms-houses, for the poor of the congregation.

At Buckland, near the Nine Elms, two miles from Portsmouth, a small neat chapel has been lately erected by the congregation of King-street.

In the towns and neighbourhood are eight Chapels of the Particular Baptists, viz. in Meeting-house-alley St. George's-square (a neat and spacious building); another in White's-row; four at Halfway Houses; one near the Bush hotel, Southsea, (a large building erected in 1815, at an expense of 1900*l.* the interior fitted with wainscoting taken from French prizes during the last war,) attached is a burial-place; one at Forton, near Gosport.

The Chapels of the "Gospel Church" and the Methodist New Connexion are near the streets behind the walls of the Dock-yard at Portsea, in Daniel-street, and near Marlborough-row.

The Church of the Roman Catholic faith is in Prince George's-street, near the church of St. John. It is a small building, and has been erected about thirty-five years. Above the high altar is a fine picture, in a noble gilt frame, of "Christ stilling the tempest," painted by Sir Robert Kerr Porter; and in the gallery is a neat organ. Attached to this church is a residence for the officiating priest. A second place of worship, but on a much smaller scale, is behind the Independent Chapel in Middle-street, Gosport.

In White's-row, Portsea, is the Jewish Synagogue, founded originally in A. M. 5502 (1742), by subscription of the then small congregation, acting principally on the suggestion of Abraham Woollfe. It was rebuilt in A. M. 5540 (1780), on a larger and much handsomer scale; the date being on a large stone in front of the edifice. The interior is adorned with gilding, six elegant chandeliers, and brazen candlesticks. The ark (in the centre of which are the tables of the law) is of solid mahogany, surrounded by mahogany rails, and erected at an expense of 200*l.* In the centre of the building is the reading-desk and elders' seats, surrounded with mahogany rails; a gallery above is appropriated for females, in front of which is a clock, and the King's arms. The seats of the chapel will accommodate two hundred persons; and attached is a large and elegant vestry-room. Service is performed here three times on each Saturday, and twice on every other day. The Jewish burial-ground is about a mile to the eastward of the town.

Of the Asylums for the Poor, the first is that belonging to the parish of Portsmouth, situate in Warblington-street, erected in 1710: it is confined and ruinous. Proposals were made by the Board of Ordnance to change this site for that of the Artillery Barracks at Halfway Houses; Government wanted 600*l.* and the house in exchange; the parish offered 400*l.*—the matter rests here at present. It was proposed in 1801 to build a new house. 1804, John Merchant Bulkeley, Esq. of Lisbon, left by will to the poor-house of Portsmouth parish, 100*l.*: it was expended in building sick rooms. The poor are maintained by a rate of 7s. or 7s. 6d. in the pound; and these rates are very oppressive, being increased by the passing of the wives of soldiers and sailors to their homes.

The Poor-house for Portsea is situated at Kingstone Cross, two miles on the London-road; it is a very large brick building, having been at several times much enlarged.

The late Thomas Fitzherbert, Esq. who for many years resided at Stubbington Lodge, and held the College leases under Mr. Thistlethwayte, left by will, dated June 8, 1821, the sum of 10,000*l.* Four per cent. Cons. Bank

Annuities; the dividends whereof are to be paid in certain life annuities, "for and towards the maintenance and support of five poor men, married or single, ten poor widows, and five poor single women, who respectively shall be of the age of fifty years, or upwards, and shall have been born within the liberty or in the guildable part of the parish of Portsea, and be resident in the parish at the time of their election, and shall have resided at least ten years previous to their admission. The vicar of the parish, or his curate deputed by him, the ministers of St. George's and St. John's churches, the curates of St. Paul's and All Saints' churches, and of any other church which may be built in the parish, having cure of souls, and the churchwardens for the time being of the guildable part of the parish of Portsea, are appointed governors, directors, managers, superintendents, and visitors of the said charity, with full power to elect and choose the persons, who for the time being shall partake of the benefit of the said charity.

Conventual Grants.

Deed between the Prior of Southwick and the Vicar of Portsmouth relative to the Tithes of the Town; 1260.

"To all the faithful in Christ by whom these letters shall be seen or heard, Master Thomas of Winchester sends eternal health in the Lord. We decide between the ecclesiastics, the Prior and Convent of Southwick, patrons of the Chapel of Portsmouth and Rectors, on the one part, and Thomas de Singelton, Perpetual Vicar of the said chapel, on the other part, after this manner, with the unanimous consent of both parties: to wit, It is ordained that the aforesaid vicar shall fully enjoy all the oblations and obventions appertaining and belonging to the said chapel, of whatsoever kind they may be, with mortuaries and offerings belonging to the same, together with the small tithes of flax or vegetables, and all others arising within the town of Portsmouth, as the preceding vicar was accustomed to receive; but for the tithes of every kind of corn, the said vicar shall pay annually, at the termination of each quarter of the year hereafter mentioned, the sum of one hundred shillings sterling: to

wit, at the feast of All Saints twenty shillings; at the feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin twenty shillings, at the feast of the Passover forty shillings, and at the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin twenty shillings. And when the said prior and convent shall have replaced the books, and put the ornaments and decorations of the said chapel in a fit and proper state of repair, the said vicar shall maintain in the aforesaid proper state the said chapel with all contingent burthens as well in the services as in others ordinary and extraordinary; and all the future vicars for the time being shall do in like manner: and the said vicar and his successors shall have a glebe-house in the town of Portsmouth to dwell in, except a certain space on the north part of the said glebe-house enclosed with a wall, and reserved to the said prior and convent. And this ordinance, made public, established, confirmed, and rendered irrevocable for ever by common consent, is strengthened and rendered more effectual by the alternately attached seals of each of the said parties. Made in the year of our Lord one thousand two hundred and sixty and the third day of May."

Endowment of the Parish and Vicarage of Portsmouth.

"To all the sons of holy mother church to whom a knowledge of this writing shall come, William by the divine mercy Lord Bishop of Winchester, sends eternal health in the Lord. Be it known that we have carefully and with due deliberation inspected a certain public deed, concerning certain matters by compensation and agreement between the ecclesiastics, Edward Prior of the Priory or Conventual Church of Southwick, of the holy order of Saint Augustine, and the Convent of the same place, impropriators of the parish church of Portsmouth in our diocese of Winchester, on the one part, and Master John Tone, perpetual Vicar of the said parish church of Portsmouth on the other, duly executed and sealed by the seal and subscription of John Marham by apostolic authority public notary, sealed and confirmed by us according to the tenor of the following words: In the name of the Lord Amen. By this present public instrument be it clearly made manifest to all, that in the year from

the Incarnation of our Lord one thousand four hundred and fifty-four, and in the second elevation and the eighth year of the pontificate of our most serene father in Christ, and our Lord, Lord Nicholas the Fifth, by divine providence Pope, and on the twenty-fourth day of April, in the chapter-house of the priory or conventual church of Southwick in the diocese of Winchester, and in the presence of my public notary subscribed, and the underwritten witnesses, specially appointed venerable men, brother Edward, prior of the priory or conventual Church of Southwick aforesaid, and many other canons of the said conventual church, in the same place, for the underwritten purpose, as they have affirmed, assembled in and holding a chapter, impropriators of the parish church of Portsmouth in our said diocese of Winchester, and Master John Tone, perpetual vicar, as he hath affirmed, of the parish church of Portsmouth aforesaid, publicly declared and recited upon what occasion of withholding or non-payment of a certain annual sum of a hundred shillings to be paid yearly to the aforesaid ecclesiastics by the said vicar of the church, as the said ecclesiastics have asserted, and also on pretext of the repairing of the chancel, and for the support of all other burthens ordinary and extraordinary, of the parish church of Portsmouth aforesaid, pertaining to the vicar of the said church whosoever he may be for the time being, as the said ecclesiastics have also affirmed, and there arose between the parties great matter of doubt, and furthermore they asserted that by the mediation of the friends of the aforesaid parties this dispute and doubt was set at rest between the same, and the said parties, notwithstanding any composition whatsoever previously made between the predecessors of the said parties of and concerning the aforesaid matter, have agreed and settled in the manner following, viz.—that the aforesaid John Tone, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Portsmouth aforesaid, and every and each his successors, vicars hereafter of the said church, should fully enjoy all the oblations and obventions to the church of Portsmouth of whatsoever kind they may be, with the mortuaries and legacies appertaining to it, and also all the small tithes of (linorum et canaborum) flax or vegetables

arising within the limits and boundaries of the said parish, and all other things as his predecessors have been accustomed to enjoy, except the tithes of every kind of corn, (bladi,) which the said ecclesiastics and all and each of their successors will enjoy for ever, with the exception, also, and reservation to the said religious men, and to all and each of their successors, of a certain annual pension of twenty shillings, (solidorum) arising annually from 'God's House' at Portsmouth, which sum of twenty shillings the said ecclesiastics, and all and each of their successors, shall receive and enjoy for ever; and also that the said John Tone, the aforesaid vicar, and all and each of his successors, vicars hereafter of the said church, be not bound in future for the payment of the said sum of one hundred shillings, of which mention is before made, but that the said John, the aforesaid vicar, and all and each of his successors, vicars hereafter of the said church, shall be unmolested, free, and exempt from rendering of payment of the said sum of one hundred shillings, to be paid to the said ecclesiastics for ever; also that the said John Tone, the aforesaid vicar, and all his successors, vicars hereafter of the aforesaid church of Portsmouth, shall repair and maintain for ever the chancel of the said church, in all its erections, windows, glass, and other things thereunto appertaining, at their own cost and expense for ever, along with the other burdens belonging to the said church of Portsmouth, as well in the services, and all other burdens, both ordinary and extraordinary. Also the said John, vicar, and all and each his successors vicars hereafter, shall have a glebe-house in the town of Portsmouth for an habitation, in the same manner and form as the present vicar and his predecessors have hitherto inhabited. Moreover the aforesaid parties at that time, in the same place, promised that they, as soon as they should be conveniently able, will procure, as far as is in them and belongs to them, that this said composition and agreement should be approved, confirmed, perpetuated, and rendered effectual by the authority of the reverend father in Christ, and our Lord, Lord William, by the grace of God, Bishop of Winchester. These presents were executed, as they are written and recited above, in the year of our Lord, in the pontificate, and in the month, day, and place

aforesaid, in the presence (at that time and in that place) of the discreet men, Robert Edyngdon, chaplain, and John Rowland, literate, of Salisbury and Chichester, specially invited and requested to be witnesses to the aforesaid matters. And I John Marham, clerk of the diocese of Chichester, by apostolic authority, Notary Public, was present to all and each of the aforesaid presents whilst they were transacting and doing so as is premised, in the year of our Lord, in the pontificate, month, day, and year aforesaid, together with the aforesaid witnesses, and all and each of them, I saw and heard so done, wrote, published, and reduced to this public form, and with my usual and customary seal, being asked and required, sealed to the faith and testimony of all and each of the aforesaid premises. Which aforesaid composition and agreement, we, William, by Divine grace Bishop of Winchester, at the earnest petition of the aforesaid parties, ratify, and also approve and confirm by our pontifical authority, and have decreed that henceforth, for ever, they should have all weight, strength, and confirmation.

"Specially reserving to ourselves, and to our successors, the power of regulating, altering, subtracting from, and adding to the aforesaid composition and agreement, when just and lawful reason shall require it.

"In testimony of which our seal is attached to this deed. Given in our manor of Southwick, in the twenty-second day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand four hundred and fifty-four, and in the seventh year of our consecration. "W. WINTON."

The Vicarage is valued in the king's books at 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* Patron, the Warden and Scholars, clerks, at St. Mary's-college, near Winchester.

The present new and commodious vicarage, in the centre of the High-street, was erected by the present vicar, being commenced on the first of September, 1826, finished in March 1828. The old and decayed house, on the same site, was built in the year 1690, by the Rev. Mr. Heather, vicar.

HISTORY OF THE NAVAL ESTABLISHMENTS, DOCK-YARD, GUN-WHARF, HASLAR, &c.

THE Admiralty-house is situated in the centre of the High-street, Portsmouth, and originally belonged to — Varloe, Esq. a gentleman of much celebrity in the political history of the town. After his death it was let to pay the taxes; and, during the command of Admiral Parker, purchased by Government for 2000*l.* as the residence of the Port-admiral. The entrance was originally in the centre, up a flight of stone steps. Where now stands the admiral's office, to the left of the mansion, was the carriage entrance to the gardens, in which was a large rookery; and on the opposite side, where the entrance to the mansion now is, stood a high wall, with a small gateway.

"The princes of the blood resided here. On the night of the 22d of June it exhibited the star of the Order of the Garter, twelve feet in circumference, in variegated lamps; and on the second and third nights, the front was covered with an immense anchor, surmounted by the diadem and plume of the Regent, producing a most resplendent effect." *

Previous to the purchase of these premises, the Admiral's residence was at No. 106 in the High-street; and the office was kept for years in the house which now forms the green-room of the Theatre. The following is the naval establishment:—commander-in-chief, flag-lieutenant, secretary, clerks, office-keepers, messengers, lieutenants of the Semaphores, signal men.

"The Harbour of Portsmouth is the finest in the world, possessing every possible advantage without one single disadvantage: capacious enough to receive the whole British Navy; sheltered by high lands and towns from every wind; affording most excellent anchorage, with a

* Private Journal of the Imperial visit in 1814.

depth of water, at any time of tide, for a first-rate ship to enter, or ride in security within; surrounded by arsenals and docks of the most magnificent description and extent, from which expeditions can be fitted with incredible despatch; and guarded on every side with fortifications, in all the pomp and majesty of war." The entrance between the Round Tower and Block-house Fort is not wider than the Thames at London-bridge; but immediately behind these it expands, passing in a kind of lake, on the Gosport side, past Haslar Hospital, as high as the village of Stoke (Haslar Lake), and on the Portsmouth side, into the Camber and Mill-dam, which were both formerly of much greater extent than at present. The latter is still the usual rendezvous of the fishing-vessels of the port, and the landing-place for merchandize at the town quay and Custom-house.

"By the erection of the new Gun-wharf over a part of the ancient Camber, the current of the tide has been materially altered. The shore, at the end of Broad-street, is lower by many feet than it was a few years since; and the landing-place is so deteriorated, that some remedial means must ere long be resorted to."

After passing the Dock-yard and Naval Brewery, at a mile and a half from the entrance, it expands to above two miles in breadth, and divides into three principal lakes or branches; one running up to the town of Fareham, a second to Portchester Castle, and a third to Portsbridge; where, by a canal faced with stone, it communicates with Langstone Harbour. There are several other inlets, or lakes, branching, in various directions, towards Forton, Tipner, &c. In the larger lakes, the men-of-war are laid up in ordinary, being roofed over with timber to preserve them from the weather, and regularly painted white. The number is, of course, continually changing, by their being called into commission, &c. The rise of the tide is eighteen feet, at spring tide; and at the lowest ebb tides, when the banks in front of the Forts at Block-house and of Southsea Castle are left dry, there is still sufficient depth of water in the harbour for the largest ships of war to ride in perfect security. It flows into the haven seven hours, and ebbs a little more than five; and the current is so strong, and runs with such velocity in

the Channel and at the mouth of the harbour, as effectually to scour and keep it clear, and often to be with difficulty stemmed by vessels. Within these few years it has become a practice with Government to take the King's ships in or out, by means of powerful steam-vessels, without regard to the wind or tide: this detracts much from the magnificence of the scene.

"At this moment a first-rate man-of-war has reached Spithead, a second is off the Castle, a third in the Narrows, a fourth is now passing the Platform, and the bowsprit of another just visible in the harbour's mouth, her top-gallant masts and pendant seen over the round towers of the port; all under a press of sail—a scene this truly British." *

There are generally three guard-ships in the harbour, fully equipped for sea. On board one of these the Port-admiral has his flag flying; and from this ship the customary salutes are given or returned. A magnificent view of the interior of the harbour, shipping, arsenals, Gun-wharf, and the towns of Gosport and Portsea, with the lofty towers and domes of the colleges in the Dock, the distant hill of Portsdown, and Nelson's monument, is obtained, at the time of high-water, from the causeway at the lower end of Broad-street, Portsmouth.

"Before the mouth of Portsmouth Harbour, runs out (like a vast court before the front gate of a castle) the noble roadstead of Spithead. It takes its name from a sand-bank, which extends from the right side of the Harbour, running towards Southsea Castle, and ending in a point which is called the Head of the Spit, or Spithead. Round the point under the batteries of the Castle passes the Channel, through which all ships which go from Portsmouth Harbour into Spithead Road must sail. Spithead stretches five or six leagues, aad is well secured from every wind by the folding of the Isle of Wight over to the Hampshire coast." †

The usual anchoring-place is three miles from Portsmouth, and will readily accommodate one thousand sail of King's and other ships, which ride here in perfect safety. Far to the westward is the Motherbank, between

* MSS. on the expedition against Algiers.
† Gilpin's Tour through Hampshire.

Stoke's Bay and the Isle of Wight, the usual anchorage for merchantmen, and where (marked out by a space enclosed by yellow buoys, in which no vessel dares enter under the severest penalties) ships arriving from suspected ports perform quarantine. The line of water extending down towards Southampton river is sometimes called the Solent Sea. To the eastward is the well known anchoring-place, St. Helen's; and from this to the shore stretches a vast sand-bank, or series of banks, called the Woolsner. This serves as a species of defence to Portsmouth and Spithead; but obstructs the entrance to Langstone Harbour, which passes with a very narrow entrance between Fort Cumberland and Hayling Island; and then widening to a great extent, bounds the island of Portsea on the eastern side, passing round it at Portsbridge, and reaching as high as Havant and Bedhampton, uniting with Chichester Harbour.

"Accidents from shipwreck are not uncommon on this Bank: in 1779, October the 19th, the Impregnable, a noble first-rate ship of war, was totally lost on the Woolsner Sand."

1781, August 19th, the Royal George, of 108 guns, commanded by Admiral Kempenfelt, and having on board twelve hundred people, sank at her anchors; by which catastrophe six hundred and fifty seamen, two hundred and fifty women, a number of officers, and the gallant admiral, perished; together with several persons in a small victualling hoy, which was swallowed up by the vortex occasioned by the rapid descent of the gallant vessel.

She had just returned from sea, and was ordered into dock for repairs, having made more water in the hold than usual, and no decrease being apparent while at her moorings. The proper officers, in their survey, having discovered that the leak was but a few feet below the water-line, and that it was probably arising from some defect in the copper sheathing, resolved to heave her down at Spithead: it was also discovered that the pipe for the removal of the bilge-water, and the occasional admission of fresh water, also required repair, or a new one; and as she required to be heeled very much, her guns were removed to the side opposite to the leak. The

crew (the greater part being at dinner) neglected to close the lower-deck scuppers; the water stole imperceptibly on the deck—she descended without its being noticed. Her dangerous situation being at last discovered, the drums beat to arms; but she fell on her side, the guns, shot, &c. rolling over, hurried her down, and she went to the bottom before signals of distress could be made.

The following is Mr. Kingstone's account of the wreck in 1817, as ascertained by descending in a diving-bell:—

"The wreck lies with her head about W. S. W. The quarter-deck, forecastle, roundhouse, with the larboard-topside as low down as the range of the upper-deck, are entirely gone. The oak-strakes, and midships of the flat of the upper deck are much decayed by worms in several places, so as to show the beams and framing beneath. The whole of the fir appears as sound as when first laid. The deck is much twisted from the ship's falling so much fore and aft. The wreck has a beautiful appearance when viewed about a fathom above the deck, being covered with small weeds, interspersed with shells, star-fish, and a species of polypus, lying on a thin, greasy, grey sediment. All below the deck is a perfect solid of fine black mud; and when suspended over the larboard side she appears a rude mass of timber, lying in all directions. The after-part has fallen in."

Mr. Kingstone is of opinion that it is impossible to remove her, either altogether or in detached parts. An attempt was made some years since by Mr. Tracey to raise her, by loading two ships with water, lashing them to the wreck by cables at low water: as the tide rose, the vessels being lightened, it was presumed that the wreck might be lifted. The experiment failed: the projector, however, attributed it to the want of proper assistance.

Many of her guns and stores were raised towards the close of the last century, although there were eleven fathoms of water above the wreck. A red buoy, in the centre of Spithead, points out the situation in which she lies. The bell of this ship now hangs in the cupola of the Dock chapel.

1795, May 1, at eleven a. m. a fire broke out on board his Majesty's ship Boyne, 98 guns; Captain the

Hon. G. Grey, commander. The flames burst through the poop, and in twenty minutes she was in a blaze from stem to stern. The crew were saved by the boats of the fleet, but every effort to extinguish the fire was abortive; all the shipping, therefore, to avoid the danger, dropped down to St. Helen's, although the wind and tide were unfavourable. Her cables being burnt through at half past one, she drifted towards the east, and at length grounded near Southsea Castle. Her guns being all loaded went off as the fire surrounded them, the balls flying in all directions among the shipping, the ruins of Southsea Castle, and some even reaching Stoke's Bay. At six p. m. the magazine blew up with a most tremendous explosion, shaking the whole town like an earthquake; destroying the windows even in Portsea, and damaging the batteries of the Castle. Eleven persons perished from approaching too near the ship to rip off the copper sheathing. A white buoy, three-quarters of a mile from Southsea Castle, towards the south, points out the spot of this accident.

1797, April 15, a mutiny broke out among the seamen on board the men-of-war at Spithead, the real motives of which were certain grievances respecting pay and provision. On the signal being made for sailing, the seamen of the London refused to obey the orders of their superiors; and rushing into the shrouds, gave three cheers (the preconcerted signal), which were immediately answered by the other seamen, and the fleet was instantly in a state of mutiny and rebellion. Delegates were appointed from each ship, and petitions for redress of grievances presented to the admirals, &c. to which answers were hoped, before orders were given to get again under weigh, "unless the enemy were known to be at sea." While waiting for an answer to the petitions, some of the delegates attempted to board the London, but were resisted by the officers, who, ordering the marines to level their pieces, were obeyed, and in the skirmish five seamen lost their lives. The crew of the London then turned her guns towards the stern, threatening to blow all aft into the water, unless the officers surrendered; and Admiral Colpoys and Captain Griffiths were confined in separate cabins. The sailors wished to bury the dead bodies in Kingstone church-yard, passing in procession

through the town of Portsmouth. This request was most positively refused by the Governor; the town was placed under circumstances to repel any attack from the fleet; and resistance on both sides would inevitably have been resorted to, had not the calmness, forbearance, and perseverance of Sir J. Carter at length compromised the affair, by obtaining permission for the procession to pass through the garrison, and the bodies to be landed at the Common Hard. Sir John accompanied them through the garrison, to prevent any insult. At the Hard he was joined by Mr. Godwin, a magistrate: they accompanied the procession till it had passed the Fortifications, and every thing was conducted with the strictest decorum. On their return, several of the delegates came to Sir John to inform him that all the men were aboard, and to thank him for his kindness. The worthy magistrate inquired after the Admiral, hoping they would do him no harm: (it was at this time imagined that Admiral Colpoys would be hung at the yard-arm, and he had prepared for such an event by making his will, in which he left an annuity of 20*l.* to each widow whose husband had unfortunately been killed. The next morning the Admiral was privately and unexpectedly brought on shore (though pursued by the boats of the Mars), and delivered into the hands of Sir John Carter, as the Civil Power, on his giving a receipt for his body to be shown by the sailors to their comrades. Admiral Colpoys declared to the King, "that he owed his life to Sir John Carter, and that his Majesty had not a better or more faithful subject in his dominions." On the 14th of May, Lord Hood arrived with the Act of Parliament granting an additional allowance, and His Majesty's pardon to such as returned to their duty; together with a proclamation forbidding all intercourse with the crews of ships declared to be in a state of mutiny, either personally, by letter, or otherwise, on pain of death;—tranquillity was restored, and the banner of rebellion being struck, the Fleet once more set sail to meet the "world in arms."

Spithead was in "the olden time" the scene of warfare; to wit, in the reign of Richard the Second, when the French burnt the town of Portsmouth. In the reign of Henry the Eighth, when the Mary Rose was sunk from the weight

of her ordnance; and were we to dilate on the Fleets which have rendezvoused here, it would comprehend a sketch of the whole range of English naval history. It was the scene of several naval reviews in the reign of George the Third. Of late time it has been the scene also of the Regatta, which is here held during the summer-months, superior to any thing of the kind in the kingdom, inasmuch as Spithead presents one of the finest sheets of water. The vessels are of the finest character (including those belonging to the members of the Royal Yacht club—an institution truly British,) and the mariners as expert as any in the world. It is a nautical exhibition of the most interesting and gratifying description.

Imperial Visit to Portsmouth, June 22d, 1814.

After the ratification of peace between France and the allied powers of England, Russia, Austria, and Prussia, concluded at Paris on the 30th of May, 1814, the Emperor Alexander of Russia, Frederick King of Prussia, Marshal Blucher, Prince Platoff, accompanied with a crowd of illustrious personages, arrived in London on a visit to the Prince Regent; and having expressed a desire to see the fleet and arsenal of Portsmouth, his Royal Highness was pleased to direct that the Board of Admiralty should repair to Portsmouth, and that the flag of the Lord High Admiral, as well as that of his Royal Highness the Admiral of the Fleet, should be hoisted on this occasion. On Sunday June 19, 1814, his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence hoisted his flag on board the Jason, which on the 20th, or following day, he shifted to the Impregnable, whilst the flag of the Lord High Admiral was hoisted on board the Ville de Paris, 110. It would be impossible to give an accurate description of the bustle occasioned in this town during the visit of these illustrious guests. The Government-house was magnificently furnished for the occasion, as was the bank of Messrs. Godwin, and a part of the Commissioner's house, with state beds, &c. by the Regent's upholsterers from London; and the magnificent services of plate from Carleton-House were brought down. The interest excited by the meeting of three distinguished rulers of kingdoms, brought together more than treble the population of the

town, not only from London, but from all the western counties; and here all seemed concentrated in unison of feeling like one happy family. From the commencement of the week the town was full; and ere the Prince Regent had arrived, most of the lodgings were secured, and numbers slept in stables, and on the floors.

On Wednesday the 22nd, in the afternoon, his Royal Highness the Prince Regent arrived. A telegraphic despatch having been made to Lord Melville, and communicated to his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence, the noble Port Admiral, that our august ruler had left town at nine o'clock, every preparation due to exalted rank was made for a royal reception. The road leading into the town from the Lamport-gate, was strewed with fine gravel, and from Portsdown-hill to the Government-house was lined with eleven thousand military, including detachments of the 7th, 9th, 10th, 14th, 16th, and 18th Dragoons, and of Infantry (Regulars) the 2nd (or Queen's), 23rd, 36th, 38th, 67th, and 103rd, and the first Provisional battalion; the Argyle-shire, Inverness-shire, North Hants, South Hants, Cornwall, Ross-shire, Fifeshire, Kerry, and Kilkenny militias:—the Portsdown Yeomanry Cavalry, commanded by Colonel Lindegren, were, in the whole, thirteen days on duty, waiting the arrival of the Regent, to escort the royal carriage into the town. A salute on Portsdown-hill from a brigade of artillery announced the approach of the Royal visitor, which was immediately answered by the ships of war and the artillery on the battlements of the town. Anxiety was at its zenith of stretch. The scene from the hill to the Government-house was beautiful beyond description. Triumphal arches, decorated with laurel and wreaths of flowers, were built across the road; banners, standards, and flags, floated in all directions; the merry bells pealed from the neighbouring churches; a loyal population from all the country round

"Had cull'd them out a holiday,
And in their best attire
Had come to scatter flowers in his path
Who rode in triumph.
They climb'd them up to walls and battlements,
To towers, and windows, yea to chimney-tops,

With infants in their arms; and there they sate
The livelong day in patient expectation
To view the Imperial pageant sweep along;
And when they saw his chariot but appear,
Did they not raise so universal shout,
That 'Solent' trembled underneath his banks,
To hear the replication of the sounds
Made in his concave shores!"

The trumpets of the military escorts rent the air, and the bands of the different regiments sounded the National Anthem as the troops presented arms and colours—

"And as he pass'd along
You would have thought the very windows spake,
So many greedy looks of young and old
Through casements darted their desiring eyes
Upon his visage—
Whilst climbing boys stood on their fathers' shoulders,
Answering their shouting sires with tender cries,
To make the concert up of general joy."

On the nearer approach to the town, a large band of the Royal Dock Ropemakers, according to ancient custom, habited in white jackets and nankeen trowsers, with purple sashes across their shoulders, ornamented with loyal insignia, five conductors with short staves, the others bearing white wands, followed the cavalry, and preceded the Regent's carriage. The procession was obliged to halt at short intervals of time, when three lengthened shouts burst from the Ropemakers, and the responding multitudes. His Royal Highness was met by Lieutenant-Governor Houston and staff, without the Landport gates, which were locked. On the approach of the Regent, the Lieutenant-Governor receiving the massy keys from Town-major Ashurst, presented them to the Regent, with an appropriate address. His Royal Highness returned the same with his usual condescension, observing that it was the Royal command, "to throw open the gates of the Garrison." A triple salute of all the artillery on the lines and all the fleet followed, and his Royal Highness passing the Drawbridge, was received in the town with the most enthusiastic acclamations of loyal respect. The procession being joined by all

the naval officers, appeared from the magnificence of the costumes, one mass of moving gold. He was accompanied by the Duke of Cambridge, General Bayley, and the Honourable Berkeley Craven, and was received at the Government-house by his Royal brother the Duke of Clarence, and an immense group of military officers. The Duke of Clarence presented the Admirals and Captains of the Fleet, who were most graciously received. The distinguished personages appeared on the balcony, accompanied by about twenty noblemen, when the air was rent with the congratulating applause of thousands assembled on the Ramparts and Parade to welcome his arrival. The town, particularly the High-street, was brilliantly illuminated: especially the Governor's house, where a beautiful display of variegated lamps emblazoned the front, and gave a strong effect to the word "Peace," the centre, with a star blazing over it: at the two angles of the house were the initials "A," and "F," in honour of the illustrious visitors, encircled with wreaths of laurel: the balcony was set up with lamps in the form of drapery. This was the chief magnet of attraction. The Lieutenant-Governor's house bore the initials of its illustrious resident, Frederick William of Prussia, encircled with olive-branches: the remainder of the building was thickly covered with variegated lamps, and had a most imposing effect from the Ramparts. The Admiralty-house was brilliantly illuminated, with a plume of feathers over the entrance door, and an immense anchor on the front, in variegated lamps; the other part of the building was decorated with festoons, and the whole had an effect equal to any in the town. All the Government-offices, with General Fisher's residence at Halfway House, bore similar marks of respectful gratulation in honour of the occasion. The Clarence hotel, at which the Admiral of the Fleet resided, bore several transparent, appropriate and popular representations. The Crown inn adjoining bore a large transparency, designed and painted by Mr. Bird: it comprised the Royal Arms on a large scale, supported on the dexter side by the Russian eagle, and by the Prussian on the sinister, with the names "Alexander, Platoff, Frederick William, Blucher," emanating from a radiated glory, dispersing the opaque clouds in every

direction,—the whole resting upon a pedestal, at the top of which was a dove irradiated by glory, emerging from clouds, and bearing an olive-branch; and in the dado part, symbols of agricultural implements, and a wheat-sheaf, with the motto, "Thanks to God!" On the dexter base a palm branch, and on the sinister a laurel encompassing the name of "Wellington!" under which was a border, twenty feet in length, with a riband encircling branches of laurel, bearing the names of "Graham, Hill, Beresford, Cotton," &c.: the whole containing an area of two hundred and thirty superficial feet. A number of other transparencies, including three of heraldic emblazonments at the old Town-hall, were about the town, in honour of the noble mediator Alexander, the King of Prussia, and the gallant Generals who seconded the great cause; and whilst every respect was paid to the illustrious followers, Wellington was not forgotten, and the departed worth of Nelson was again revived. A grand dinner was prepared for the royal visitors, and many distinguished heroes surrounded the princely table. In the evening a royal salute was fired from the batteries, and by all the men of war at Spithead. The town was literally crammed at this time, and on no occasion was the crowd in London more pressing. All was anxiety for the arrival of the Allied Sovereigns. About half past seven his Majesty the King of Prussia, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses the Prince Royal, Prince William, Prince William his Majesty's brother, and Prince Frederick of Prussia, attended by Lord Charles Bentinck, and several persons of his Majesty's court, were met by a guard of honour outside the garrison, and conducted to the Lieutenant-governor's house. The military then lined Portsea to the Dock-yard, and a considerable distance down the roads; well-dressed females bore the companionship without a murmur, till night closing in dissappointed their hopes and expectations. The Emperor of Russia and the Duchess of Oldenburg arrived at a very late hour of the night, accompanied by the Earl of Yarmouth, Count Lieven, and many noblemen of the Imperial court. Fifty Emperors and Bluchers had been announced by mistake; in short every four-wheeled vehicle could contain none else but a distin-

guished personage. In the streets every carriage was followed with cries of Blucher and Platoff until midnight. Hundreds were obliged to seek accommodation in the adjacent towns and villages, even as far as the Isle of Wight, and many slept on board the vessels in the harbour. Not only London, but all the western counties were deserted by rank, fashion, and beauty, which seemed to be concentrated in Portsmouth. At Southampton all the principal shops were closed, the streets were totally vacant, and on many of the houses was written, "Not dead, but gone to Portsmouth."

Thursday morning at 10 o'clock, the Regent, with the Dukes of York and Cambridge, proceeded in his carriage to the residence of his Majesty the King of Prussia; and thence his Royal Highness and his Majesty, with the Princes of Great Britain and Prussia, proceeded to the Commissioner's house in the Dock-yard, where they were received by his Majesty the Emperor of Russia, and conducted to his apartments: the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Board of Admiralty, and the Commissioners of the Navy, being in attendance at the Commissioner's house to receive his Royal Highness. After a short delay, his Royal Highness, their Imperial and Royal Majesties, with their Imperial and Royal Highnesses the Grand Duchess and Princes of Great Britain and Prussia, and attended by the Board of Admiralty, the Navy Board, and the suites of the Emperor and King, proceeded through the Dock-yard, amidst the acclamations of the artificers and spectators, to the King's stairs, where his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, their Majesties the Emperor and King, her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess, her attendants, their Royal Highnesses the Princes of Prussia, attended by Viscount Melville, First Lord Commissioner of the Admiralty, embarked in the barge prepared for their reception, in which the Royal Standard of Great Britain was immediately hoisted, and proceeded down the harbour to Spithead. Abreast of the Royal barge, on the right hand, a barge carried the Imperial Standard of Russia, and another, in the same situation on the left, carried the Royal Standard of Prussia; both these barges were filled with the suites of their respective sovereigns. The Board of Ad-

miralty, with the Ambassadors of Austria and Russia, and several other persons of distinction, in their barge bearing the flag of their office, immediately preceded his Royal Highness's barge. The barges of the Admirals and Captains, carrying their respective flags and pendants, followed in two lines, according to their seniority: the barge of the Admiral of the Fleet, in which his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence, with their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of York and Cambridge, and his Serene Highness the Duke of Saxe Weimar, were embarked, leading the starboard line, and that of the Admiral of the Port, in which were the Admiral and several persons of the Royal suite, leading the larboard line. As the Prince Regent passed the garrison, he was saluted with twenty-one guns from the battery on the platform, and when the Royal standard was seen from the fleet at Spithead, his Royal Highness was saluted in the same manner from the several ships there, which was repeated by the guns on the platform, and as the Royal barge passed the ships (beginning with the sternmost of the line), the yards were all manned, and their companies gave three hearty cheers, the guards being turned out, beating a march, and the officers saluting. On his Royal Highness and their Majesties going on board the Impregnable, the sides were manned by Lieutenants, and his Royal Highness was received at the head of the ladder by the Captain of the Fleet; and as soon as his Royal Highness passed the guard of Marines on the quarter-deck, where he was received by the Admiral of the Fleet, the Union flag was struck, and shifted to the Chatham, of 74 guns, and the Royal Standard was hoisted at the maintop-mast head, and the flag of the Admiralty at the foretop-mast head, and the Union flag at the mizen.—The Admiralty flag was also shifted from the Bombay, in the harbour, to the Ville de Paris, and the flag of Vice-Admiral Sir H. Neale, Bart. to the Norge, of 74 guns. The Standard was immediately saluted by the whole fleet, except the Impregnable, as before, and the salute was answered by an equal number of guns from the battery on the platform. His Royal Highness, accompanied by their Majesties, the Grand Duchess, and the Princes, visited every part of the ship, with which

they expressed themselves in the highest degree gratified. After his Royal Highness and their Majesties, and the other distinguished persons, had partaken of a collation in the great cabin of the Impregnable, they were pleased to gratify the immense crowd which had assembled round the ship, by appearing severally at the entrance port, and his Royal Highness and their Majesties were received with the most enthusiastic expressions of joy: and when his Royal Highness retired, the people spontaneously sang "God save the King." His Royal Highness was so much pleased with his visit, that he expressed his intention to return to Spithead on the next day, and he desired the fleet might be kept ready for getting under weigh as soon as the tide should serve. On his Royal Highness and their Majesties leaving the Impregnable, a Royal salute was again fired by the whole fleet, and the barges proceeded in the order in which they came, except that the Emperor of Russia and his suite embarked in the barge which bore his flag, and was followed by one of the lines of barges, while the barge which bore the Royal Standard of Great Britain led the other, the barge of the Board of Admiralty preceding both. When the barges approached the shore at Southsea Castle, they were saluted by a *feu de joie*, which was fired by the troops drawn up on Southsea Beach, and on the ramparts of the town, and by the acclamations of the people, who covered the shore; a royal salute was fired from the Battery on the platform, and the *feu de joie* and the acclamations of the crowd were repeated, and continued while the Royal Barge was passing.

The fleet were moored in one line, through the whole extent of Spithead, viz. Sceptre, 74, Captain Devonshire; St. Domingo, 80, Rear-Admiral Foote, Captain Pechell; Bedford, 74, Captain J. Waller; Rodney, 74, Vice-Admiral G. Martin, Captain C. Inglis; Chatham, 74, his Royal Highness the Admiral of the Fleet, Rear-Admiral the Hon. Henry Blackwood, Captain of the Fleet, Rear-Admiral Lukin acting as Captain of the Fleet; Ville de Paris, 110, the Lord High Admiral, Captain C. Jones; Impregnable, 98; the Standard, Captain C. Adam; Prince, 98, Admiral Sir Richard Bickerton, Bart. Captain G. Foulke; Tiger, 74, Rear-Admiral T. B. Martin, Cap-

tain J. Halliday; Queen, 74, Rear-Admiral Sir F. Laforey, Bart. Captain Lord Colville; Magnificent, 74, Captain W. T. Lake; Stirling Castle, 74, Captain Butterfield; Montague, 74, Captain P. Heywood; Norge, 74, Captain Rainer; Andromache, Acbar, Apollo, Galatea, Ceres, Belle-poule, Cerberus, Cleopatra, Magicienne, Tartarus, Amphion, Tisiphone, Foxhound, Banterer, Tyrian, Orestes, Archer, Eclipse, Bittern, Hope, Penguin, Chanticleer, Martial, Urgent, Warrior, Snap, Reynard, Sparrow, Freya, and Fervent, frigates and sloops of war. The salute from such a fleet can be much better imagined than described, aided as it was by the cannon of all the battlements round the arsenal.

The Prince Regent, King of Prussia, and Board of Admiralty, with the suites of his Royal Highness and his Majesty, landed at the Sallyport, while his Majesty the Emperor of Russia proceeded to the King's stairs at the Dock-yard. His Royal Highness, accompanied by his Majesty, walked from the Sallyport to the Government-house, amidst the acclamations of the crowds that filled the street, and testified by every possible means their joy at seeing amongst them his Royal Highness and his illustrious guests.

It were impossible to give an accurate description of the picturesque scene which presented itself whilst the illustrious visitors were at Spithead. The roaring of the cannon from the whole fleet, the view of the thousands assembled on the shores of Southsea Common and the battlements of the town, the yards manned by British tars, and the number of boats and vessels of every description sailing within a compass of about four miles, amounting to at least one thousand, while "Sails unnumbered whiten'd all the sea," conspired together to render the whole a scene of grandeur equal to any thing the mind can figure to itself. Four frigates, the Galatea, Magicienne, Andromache, and Amphion, got under weigh and manœuvred whilst the illustrious company were on board. It was a most gratifying scene to behold the friendly Sovereigns of foreign kingdoms mixing with our Regent in reviewing our proud national bulwark, the past dread and envy of the world. The majestic appearance of the first-rate ships of war was at once the admiration

and wonder of the Allied Sovereigns, who were pleased thus to express themselves. The whole of the review was under the management of his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence, Admiral of the Fleet, assisted by the talent of Admiral Sir R. Bickerton. Previously to his Royal Highness quitting the Impregnable, a signal was made for the admirals, captains, and commanders, to repair on board to join the procession into Portsmouth. In the evening his Royal Highness had a dinner of above one hundred and twenty covers, when their Majesties, the Grand Duchess, the Princes, and their respective suites dined, and to which several distinguished foreigners, the Board of Admiralty, the ministers, and naval and military officers of the ranks of post-captain and colonel respectively, had the honour to be invited. In short, this dinner party consisted of some of the most gallant defenders of their country, both by sea and land. In the evening, when all were happy, from the prince to the peasant, in their different amusements, whilst thousands were contemplating the beautiful treat of the day, and enjoying the brilliant illuminations of the evening, there was yet a sort of vacuum, and that was the absence of the gallant veteran Blucher. On a sudden, a coach arrived at the Clarence hotel, and "Blucher! Blucher!" was resounded through the town: it flew like an electric fluid, and crowds assembled to give vent to the affectionate feelings of gratitude of the British heart, due to the man whose ardent valour co-operated materially in crushing the dynasty of a tyrant whose overthrow gave us the blessings of peace. With that familiarity so characteristic of the brave warrior, he appeared at the window of the hotel with a bumper of wine, and drank the health of the generous British people. A burst of the most enthusiastic applause ensued,

"And such a noise arose
As the shrouds make at sea in a stiff tempest,
As loud, and to as many tunes: Hats, cloaks,
(Doublets we think) flew up: and had their faces
Been loose, this day they had been lost: such joy
Was never seen before."

He at length got into a carriage, under the escort of a guard of dragoons:—at this moment a party of sailors

from the crowd heaved a-head, and took possession of the quarter-deck, or, in other words, the top of the carriage; some were capsized, but two of them swore to defend the brave, and as the carriage proceeded, to the delight of all, the tars danced on the top all the way to the Government-house, where the General was received with open hands and hearts, amidst a group of as brave warriors as ever graced a festive table, or bled in defence of their Country's wrongs.

The immense fleet fired a lengthened *feu de joie*, and continued saluting during the night; the Impregnable was illuminated in a most brilliant and singular manner, lights being placed in every port and window, and along the bowsprit and yards, so as to give the perfect figure of the ship, while rockets rising in rapid succession, and blue lights, false fires, &c. exhibited at the same instant from every part of the floating castle, "drove back the night from heaven," and had a most resplendent and beautiful appearance. To gratify the tumultuous joy expressed by the populace, the whole Imperial party, late in the evening, rose from the banquet, came forward into the balcony, each bearing a goblet of wine, and while—"the kettle to the trumpet spake,

The trumpet to the cannoneer without,
The cannons to the heavens, the heavens to earth,
The assembled Monarchs drank to England's health."

Friday, June 24th.—This morning was ushered in with the usual bustle. At ten o'clock, his Royal Highness the Regent, and his Majesty the King of Prussia, with their respective families and suites, again met the Emperor at the Commissioner's house in the Dock-yard, and proceeded on foot to visit the Yard. His Royal Highness conducted their Majesties through the several storehouses, rigging-lofts, rope-houses, the anchor forge, the wood-mills and metal-mills, and in all these places his Royal Highness and their Majesties were pleased to express their approbation of the good order, zeal, and ingenuity displayed by the respective officers and artificers. His Royal Highness and the King of Prussia afterwards proceeded to the King's stairs to embark in the barges, whilst his Majesty the Emperor of Russia, accompanied by the Grand Duchess, and attended by Lord Viscount

Melville, the Earl of Yarmouth, and the Imperial suite, continued to inspect the Dock-yard, and afterwards crossed over to visit Haslar Hospital. His Imperial Majesty, after expressing the greatest satisfaction at the general system of the Hospital, and the good order and comfort which appear to prevail therein, returned with his suite to the Commissioner's house in the Dock-yard. The Prince Regent and the King of Prussia having embarked, the procession moved nearly in the same order as the day preceding to Spithead, and the Royal party went on board the Royal Sovereign yacht, where the Royal Standard, the flag of the Admiralty, and Union, were hoisted, as they had before been in the Impregnable. His Royal Highness was then pleased to direct a signal to be made for the fleet's getting under weigh, which was immediately executed, and the whole squadron stood out to sea with a favourable breeze. When the fleet had proceeded as far as St. Helen's, the Prince Regent, the King, and the Princes, attended as before, went on board the Impregnable, where they were received with the usual salutes and forms; the Standard, the flag of the Admiralty, and the Union, being hoisted as before. The fleet, now under full sail, and continually saluting, performed several evolutions, and manœuvred with the greatest celerity and precision, till about four o'clock, when being about five leagues from the anchorage, the fleet tacked and continued to work up to Spithead till about seven, when it had regained its former position, and his Royal Highness and the King, with their respective Royal families and suites, again entered their barges, proceeding as on the day before, under similar *feux de joie* and the like acclamations of the people, to the Sallyport, where they landed, and immediately proceeded to the Government-house: there they were received by the Earl Bathurst, Secretary of State for the War Department, and his Grace Marshal the Duke of Wellington, who had just arrived from town. At eight o'clock, His Royal Highness and distinguished guests sat down to a dinner of one hundred and twenty covers.

During the Royal visit to the Dock-yard, the Regent received intelligence that the British hero, the Duke of Wellington, would arrive in the afternoon. The report

spread instantly through the town; and whilst the greater part of the immense company was afloat, and the others chiefly assembled on the ramparts of the garrison, the gallant hero arrived IN A CARRIAGE AND EIGHT, amidst the acclamations of the few who were fortunately assembled. This was a sight indeed! Every countenance beamed with delight, and many a tear of joy trickled down the face of the British fair. The valiant chief appeared at the window of the George inn, and was again saluted with demonstrations of joy never exceeded; on his getting into his carriage to proceed to the Government-house, the horses were instantly released, and he was drawn to the spot by numbers of the more respectable part of the inhabitants; which he had no sooner reached than he appeared on the balcony, and received and acknowledged the enthusiastic and deafening cheers of upwards of ten thousand persons. On the arrival, in the evening, of the Regent at the Government-house, the military hero was in waiting, and the instant his Royal Highness saw him, he hurried his step towards him, seized him by the hand, and, for the moment, appeared lost in sensibility; but instantly recovering himself, and turning to the assembled Sovereigns and Generals, he exclaimed, "*England's glory is now complete; it only wanted the presence of your Grace.*" The Regent and the Allied Sovereigns, Wellington, Blucher, the Duke of York, with many other officers, alike distinguished for bravery and talent, both of the army and navy, upwards of one hundred and fifty as brave men as ever drew a sword, dined together. After this sumptuous and splendid banquet, his Royal Highness was pleased to order a ball and supper for the accommodation of the illustrious visitors at the Crown inn, where Mr. Neylor, at two hours' notice, prepared the ball-room, which at that time was occupied by a large party of officers at dinner. The Allied Sovereigns and the popular Generals were present. Previous, however, to their leaving the Government-house for the assembly, these most distinguished personages came out on the balcony, and each having a glass of wine in his hand, drank to the assembled thousands, amidst the most deafening shouts of applause that imagination can possibly conceive. The Emperor of Russia

danced with Miss Fitzclarence, and afterwards with Lady Gore; the Prince of Prussia with Lady Elizabeth Carnegle; Lord Stewart (late Sir Charles) with Lady Mary Long; the Prince of Oldenburg with Lady Ann Carnegle; Prince Frederick of Prussia with Miss Jarvis; Lord Erskine with Miss Cuthbert; Lord Arthur Hill with Lady Barbara Ashley; Captain G. Fitzclarence with Lady Dunmore; Hon. Berkeley Craven with Miss H. Jarvis. The Duke of Wellington did not dance; and the gallant Blucher was so much overcome by the heat of the ball-room, as to oblige him to retire for a short time.

On the following morning, Saturday June 25, his Royal Highness held a levee at the Government-house, at which the Mayor and Corporate Body were introduced to present their congratulatory address, and to which his Royal Highness returned a most gracious answer. On this occasion the honour of knighthood was conferred on Henry White, Esq. Mayor of Portsmouth; as also on Vice-Admiral Martin; Henry Peake, Esq. one of the Surveyors of the Navy; Captain F. Barton, of the 2d (or Queen's Own) regiment of foot; Colonel Roberts, of the 10th Hussars; and the Hon. George Grey was presented with the patent of a Baronetcy. From hence Sir Henry White and the Corporate Body proceeded to the Platform Battery, and there proclaimed the Peace; and also at the old Town-hall steps and Dock-yard gates.

The last grand spectacle was that of the military review on the summit of Portsdown hill. His Grace the Duke of Wellington left early this morning for London. At eleven o'clock the Prince Regent and the Allied Sovereigns and retinue left Portsmouth for Portsdown hill. About seven thousand troops were drawn up on the occasion; and the Regent and the illustrious visitors having stationed themselves in front of the line on horseback, the infantry passed by in companies, in review order; the dragoons keeping the ground. His Royal Highness the Prince Regent rode his beautiful white charger; and the allied potentates, the generals, and suite, were likewise mounted. A line was then formed, and the Prince Regent and his suite rode down and inspected them, and then drove off for Goodwood, to breakfast with his Grace the Duke of Richmond. From thence

the noble party proceeded to Petworth, the seat of the Earl of Egremont, to dine and sleep, and afterwards to Brighton, where, at the Pavilion, his Royal Highness the Prince Regent took his farewell leave of his distinguished visitors. Thus ended the grandest and most gratifying scene, perhaps, ever witnessed in this or any other country.

The following are a few of the distinguished visitors in the town at this period, viz.

The Prince Regent, the Duke of York, Duke of Clarence, Duke of Cambridge, King of Prussia, Prince Frederick the Crown Prince and Prince William (sons of the King of Prussia), Prince of Wirtemburg, Prince Augustus, Prince Frederick, Lieut-gen. Kneseback, General Wiebell, Mr. Schiel, Treasurer, Baron Humboldt, Count Schwering, Baron Brauchetsch, Prince Henry, the Emperor of Russia, Count Tolstoy, Grand Duchess of Oldenburg, Prince Polkauski, Madame Aladinshi, Prince Gazarine, General Owvaroff, Dr. Sir James Willie, Lord Yarmouth, General Turner, Prince Palkouske, General Potemkin, Colonel Arsemef, Prince Royal of Wirtemburg, Prince of Oldenburg (son of the Grand Duchess), Count Lieven, Lord Cathcart, Count Rumouski, Duke of Saxe-Gotha, Prince Coburg, General Koller, Marshal Blucher, Lieut.-gen. Lord Stewart, General D'York, General Bulow, Lord Sidmouth, Lord Forbes, Mr. Beckett, Admiral Sir Edward Nagle, General Calvert, Colonel B. Craven, Lord Burghersh, General Bailey, Duke of Saxe Wiemar, General Gordon, Sir G. Wood, Captain and Mr. Fitzclarence, Miss Fitzclarence, Admiral Sir John Beresford, Prince Waokousky, Colonels Bouverie, Mellish, Hardy, Barnard, &c. These names include the three great visitors, the Prince Regent, Emperor of Russia, and King of Prussia, and their suites. Lords Erskine, Northesk, Archibald Hamilton, Burghersh, Earl of Clare, Countess of Shaftesbury, Earl and Countess of Dunmore, Lady Barbara Ashley, and a multitude of other distinguished persons, were present in all the festive and magnificent parties.

The soldierlike appearance and conduct of the Royal Marine Corps attracted much the notice of the Regent. His Royal Highness expressed to General Farmer his

high opinion of their merits, and the Duke of York joined in the testimony of praise.

On leaving Portsmouth, his Royal Highness ordered a great promotion, both in the navy and army; bestowed the honour of knighthood on many persons; directed 3000*l.* to be distributed among the workmen of the dock and the victualling departments, the seamen of the ordinary, the Impregnable, and Royal Sovereign Yacht; with a most bountiful largess to the poor of the towns, and the debtors in the several prisons; shedding thus comfort and happiness on all around.—The Emperor Alexander presented the Hon. Sir George Grey, Bart. Commissioner of the Dock-yard, with a diamond ring, of superb workmanship, set round with large diamonds, having the letter A in the centre, and a crown over it, also set in diamonds.

"FREDERICK, Commander-in-Chief.
"General Order.

"Portsmouth, June 25, 1814.

"THE Commander-in-Chief has received the Prince Regent's commands, to express to the Troops who have been assembled at Portsmouth during his Royal Highness's residence in this garrison, and to the Brigade of Militia, his Royal Highness's entire approbation of their appearance and conduct; and the Commander-in-Chief has the satisfaction of acquainting the troops, that their Imperial and Royal Majesties, the Emperor of Russia and the King of Prussia, have been graciously pleased to express their perfect concurrence in these expressions of approbation.

"By command of his Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief. (Signed) HARRY CALVERT, A. G."

"Portsmouth, June 25, 1814.

"HIS Royal Highness the PRINCE REGENT commands the expression of his perfect satisfaction at the appearance, manœuvres, and discipline of the fleet, to be conveyed to the Admirals, Captains, Officers, Seamen, and Royal Marines, during his late visit to Portsmouth."

London Gazette Extraordinary.

"WILLIAM Duke of Clarence, Admiral of the Fleet.

"Order to the Fleet.

"HIS Royal Highness cannot quit this anchorage and resign the command of the distinguished Officers, Seamen, and Royal Marines, he has had under him on this particular and very flattering occasion, without expressing his entire approbation of attention that has been shown by all descriptions of officers and men whilst under his orders.

"Impregnable, Spithead, June 25, 1814."

The Victualling-office, which in the reign of Elizabeth was known as the Queene's Greate and Little Cooperadge, covered probably the same extent of ground as at present, 1828. The buildings forming one side of St. Mary-street were erected in 1724, (the date being on many parts of the stores,) and comprehended at that time nearly the whole of the establishment, known by the names of the New and Old-end, and Mill-stores, the old Loft and Butter-house, the Coopers' shops, and a large Slaughter-house, with pickle and beef sheds, and a space called the Hog-yard, with outhouses. The Agent's house in St. Thomas's-street was probably erected at the same time. This has a fine external appearance, being approached by a double flight of stone steps; attached is a garden, and in the rear it has communication with the victualling-yard and the offices.

"February 4, 1710. The Commons represent the neglect of the Commissioners for victualling her Majestie's Navy, in suffering the brewers to defraud the public in several instances, it seeming that the captains and pursers of the shippes agreed to take so much short of the proper allowance; the brewers allowing the captains and pursers a sum of money, and put the rest in their pockets, taking receipt for the whole; and that this practice had been for years connived at by the late Ministry." Here follows a list of names, including M. P.'s and Knights.

In 1776, a new Slaughter-house was erected in St. Mary-street, and the buildings repaired and improved; and in 1781-2, a new store built, and the Agent's office much improved. On February 11th, 1782, the Admiralty (by order, August 22d, 1781,) caused to be erected five

new stores, to be raised on the north side of King-street; and alterations made on the east side of the Agent's-walk, new gates, &c. These immense stores were completed in one year, at a cost of nearly nine thousand pounds.

The buildings on this site were in a very dilapidated state, not so lofty as the present ones, and being of stone, with portals of the same, had become black and ruinous, having much the appearance of ancient ordnance-offices. Behind the houses in Crown-street, portions of the ancient walls remain, the Admiralty having allowed Mr. Wyatt, the architect, to make use of the old materials in the new constructions. They extend the whole length of the street, are double, and of great height.

In King-street is the Naval Bakehouse, where is manufactured the biscuit for the shipping; there are six ovens, which, if necessary, can afford twenty-four suits per diem, each suit consisting of one hundred pounds, and the whole producing seven hundred and thirty-four bags of biscuit weekly, each bag weighing 112lbs. Several of the ovens are now worked with coal instead of wood. "In 1774, the King went to see the Navy Bakehouse, and according to form, was presented with a biscuit, which he ate as walking through the streets conversing with his court-attendants: from royal example, it became the fashion to walk the streets eating biscuits."*

In the Agent's-walk is a very large Egyptian statue of black porphyry; and in the office, a painting, said to represent the original Farm-house at Haslar, where now stands the Hospital; in the Storekeeper's office is another large picture, and in the Agent's house a painted ceiling; these were all taken from the original Manor-house at Weovil.

A century ago, the whole of this establishment comprehended forty persons, including the officers: it has, however, kept pace with the other establishments. In the stores were kept immense abundance of provision, wines, &c. which are now removing to Weovil.

On the external side of George's-gate on the quay, on ground rented of the Corporation, a series of wooden stores were erected in 1811, and the quay has been greatly enlarged and improved; some noble brick edifices

* Recollections of O'Keeffe.

built by the Ordnance department, were likewise given over to the Victualling-board on payment of the cost.

On the road leading to Portsea, near the bastion and gateway, is situate the King's Mill. Previous to the year 1744, there existed on this spot a mill of small size, but on the 11th of July, in that year, the old mill was taken down, removed, and His Majesty's new mill commenced by Mr. John Shepherd, who laid the foundations, altered and contrived the water-courses, and raised the arches to a level with the roadway; a Mr. Spriggs performing all the masonry and bridges now leading to Portsea: and on November 21, 1745, Mr. Shepherd built and finished the mill, Mr. Thomas Read performing all the carpentry, and Mr. Robert Barlow, an eminent millwright, supplying the mill-stones for 360*l.* and the necessary mechanism for 421*l.* In 1756, June 21st, the mill not being capacious enough, Mr. Barlow erected a new pair of flood-gates and a great variety of machinery; and in November formed a new Tail Mill, which he finished in ten weeks. The difference of the two mills can be readily traced on the exterior. The master miller's house was built in 1779: the expense of the whole establishment being above seven thousand pounds.

The building is about a quarter of a mile from the Quay, or King George's gate, and, being too ponderous for the soil, is erected on piles thirty feet long, and shoed with iron. As a means of working it, a sufficient quantity of water is admitted into the dam, or mill-pond; at high water the flood-gates are closed, and when the tide has ebbed a little, the water is worked back again into the harbour by a channel, (of sufficient depth to allow vessels of large tonnage to reach the building and discharge their cargoes,) which passes through the new Gun-wharf. At this mill the grain used at the Victualling-office is ground, and, being within the fortifications, could supply the town in case of siege. The average quantity of wheat manufactured here during the late war was three hundred quarters weekly, and during the peace it not only supplies all the flour and biscuit-meal required for this port, but considerable quantities for the department at Deptford. The mill-dam covers many acres, extends in various directions of the fortifications, forming

part of its defence, and joins the moats of Portsmouth by a new cut, made in 1819-20. It was anciently, however, much larger than at present, extending to Lake-lane, and behind the residence of the Commandant of Engineers; also to Queen-street in another direction, and over various parts of St. George's-square, rendering these parts a kind of swamp. The Ordnance have at different periods taken large portions from it for new works, more especially behind the new Ordnance-offices on the Parade. Its shape was also materially altered by the new Fortifications of Portsea.

The fleets are supplied with water from Weovil. In the Dockyard, means have for years been provided for enabling a ship to take in her sea-stock of water, without farther trouble than that of allowing it to run through a hose into the hold while lying at a jetty; but the business of filling with water being assigned to the Victualling department, the inconvenience, expense, and delay, are still incurred of sending the water in small craft to the ship after she is removed from the dock. It has been for a long time in contemplation to remove the Victualling department from Portsmouth to Weovil, and give up the immense stores, &c. to the Barrack department, for the accommodation of the military depots.

The new Victualling-yard.—"On the Gosport side of the harbour, close to the town, and now enclosed by the new Fortifications, stands Weovil, the Naval Brewery. It was originally a large private house, with an extensive garden, on the edge of the common, the property of Captain Flyers, by whom it was sold to the Countess of Clancarty, and subsequently purchased by Government. It was a long time occupied by Mr. Holmes, one of the contractors for supplying the Navy with beer, who erected on it several large Brewing-houses. These, however, (May 1, 1752,) not being capacious enough for the purposes designed, new works (June 27,) were formed by Messrs. Cummins and Shepherd of Gosport, and Mr. Quick of Portsmouth, and the necessary plant (May 4, 1753,) furnished by Mr. Powell of Portsmouth. Mr. Morris (August 15, 1753,) enlarged and improved the master brewer's-house, originally a large barn. The creek was deepened, and the foot wharfs made of oak, (July 3, 1753,)

for 426*l.* The first cargo of coals were delivered on Government account June 28, 1753. 1754-5, additional plant to a great extent furnished by Mr. Powell of Deptford. The rolling-way, (772 feet long at first, and afterwards much extended,) six new brewing-houses and stores, and a horse-mill, were (August 3, 1756, till November 30, 1757,) erected at a cost of 4600*l.*; and the stone wharfs and basin were formed by Mr. Templar in 1773, at a cost of 3604*l.* In 1780, great additions were made at an expense of 1385*l.*; still the accommodations were not adequate to the increasing demands of the navy, and Mr. Wyatt was directed to build the new Brewhouse, &c. at an estimated cost of 8800*l.*, capable of brewing a daily supply of beer for 13,000 men. From the foregoing items some idea of the extent of the national affairs here transacted may be formed. On the left of the entrance is the house of the principal officer, an extensive garden, and the range of stores for wine, beer, &c.; on the right, the large brewhouse, water-reservoirs, cooperage, &c. A canal leads to the harbour, at the head of which is a large basin to receive the small vessels of the Victualling department.

"Under the large reservoirs, (June 18, 1779,) is a mass of hard rock, which prevents the formation of the well in that direction;" and in digging the second, after obtaining a good supply, the workmen were not satisfied, but continued to dig, when suddenly opening a loose vein of sand the water disappeared, and they were obliged to close the opening of the bottom of the well with a wadding of tow and white lead, to retain the original supply.

The chairman of the Victualling board (the Hon. Major-general Stapylton) has lately made an official visit here, having in view the removal of the entire of the Victualling establishment at this port, to Weovil on the Gosport shore, where the brewery department has always been carried on. It is expected that by consolidating the duties, the services of fewer persons, as clerks, masters of trades, artificers, and labourers, will be required, and that a material annual saving may be thereby effected. The Agent Victualler's office is abolished, (Feb. 1828,) and its business consolidated with that of the resident Commissioner at Haslar. William Reeks, Esq. who

held that responsible situation for more than thirty years, received, with the official notice of its abolition, the most honourable expressions of approbation of his able and faithful conduct, and more particularly for his unremitted zeal during the arduous duties of the late war.—The King's Mill, with the present stores and manufactures, are to be given up to the public service of other boards, chiefly to the Ordnance and Engineer departments. The slop branch of the Pursery business is transferred from the Navy to the Victualling-office, and those articles, from the 1st of January, are to be procured by pursers from the Victualling department, and not from the Dock-yard as heretofore. Extensive preparations, in the way of fittings up of some of the stores, and the enlargement of others, at Weovil, are now going on. We understand that the estimated expense of making all the necessary erections and alterations there, is 270,000*l.*

The Naval Magazine at Priddy's Hard has been already described under the head of Fortifications: it was erected at an expense of 4000*l.*

At a short distance from the Blockhouse Fort, at the north-west of the entrance to the harbour, and at the edge of an inlet, or creek, stands Haslar Hospital, erected by Mr. John Turner, at the recommendation of the Earl of Sandwich, between the years 1746 and 1762. On its site was formerly a large farm, a windmill, and a copse named Hazel-wood, and in the reign of Henry VIII. a circular tower. The usual passage to this hospital is across the lake from Gosport; over this lake there was formerly a long wooden-bridge, but becoming dilapidated it was removed in 1802. There is a second landing-place from the lake immediately in front of the gates of the hospital, to which a broad roadway leads across the open space of land; on this space is erected a handsome guard-house of large size, where a guard is constantly on duty to prevent any disorder and tumult. A lofty brick-wall passes round the airing-ground, containing thirty-three acres, and a mile in circumference; and beyond this, extend some large portions of land, used as a cemetery, and for other purposes of the hospital, being altogether forty-six acres. The jetty, drains, and

main front cost 90,000*l.* sterling, and were finished before the wings were commenced.

This noble building is one of the largest brick edifices in the world. The mass of building below the surface of the earth (which is a dry gravelly soil) is equal in bulk to that which appears above. By the original plans, it was intended to have formed a square: (a drawing of this may be found in one of the earlier numbers of the Gentleman's Magazine.) The entrance to the hospital is through a pair of handsome gates with side entrances, close to which are the Warder's lodge and the Lieutenant's office on either side, passing which, the whole front, four stories high, and five hundred and sixty-seven feet in extent, presents itself to view. In the centre of this is a lofty arched entrance, leading to three ranges of massive arches; and on the pediment above, is a fine sculpture in Portland stone (carved by Mr. Pearce) of the Royal Arms;—Navigation pouring oil in the wounds of a British sailor, leaning her hand on a rudder, the north star above her head, and the compass at her feet; in the angle, the stern of a ship, the zephyrs, shells, and strings of pearls;—Commerce, seated on chests and bales, distributing money, fruit, and flowers; a sailor in distress, a bird bringing him an eel in its beak; Boreas, and large groups of shells in the angle. Over the entrance was a spacious hall, one hundred feet long and fifty broad: it is now divided, one part being the operating theatre, a second portion fitted up with vapour baths: above is the agent's store, and apartments belonging to the surgeons. To the right and left extend the wards, in a double range, of which there are one hundred and fourteen, including those in the roof, all uniform, sixty feet long and twenty feet broad, and filled with beds for the patients. These wards extend in a double line of building, forming three sides of a square, the wings or sides extending five hundred and fifty-three feet in length. These wings, at right angles with the principal front, are divided in the centre by two smaller buildings; beyond which the double ranges of wards again continue. The approaches are by staircases of most commodious dimensions: and, in the different angles, are the small rooms, termed cabins, for the nurses, surgeons, &c. Within

the hospital extends a spacious piazza, twenty-four feet wide, and the whole length of the front and angles. Broad walks, and grass-plats, with large groups of flowering shrubs, add much to the beauty of the internal area. It was first intended to erect the hospital in the shape of a perfect square, but this plan was afterwards abandoned, and a chapel, erected in 1763, seventy-two feet in length and thirty-six in breadth, connected to the wings by a very lofty iron railing, now forms the fourth side. The chapel is a neat edifice, with a small tower and clock; but, being covered with roman cement, spoils in some measure the symmetry of the general style of the hospital. "1763.—For completing the chapel at Haslar, 1000*l.*"* In the building dividing the left wing, the Commissioners of the Victualling department have lately erected two noble rooms, the lower one most superbly fitted up in mahogany for a library, and the upper one finished in the most costly style of Grecian design for a museum; the table and upright cases being of solid mahogany, and most classic forms, but extremely ill adapted for the purposes for which they are intended, being too deep, and not calculated to preserve the specimens from the ravages of insects, &c. The arrangement in the museum of the Portsmouth Institution, though by no means so costly, is infinitely better adapted. The specimens are as yet but few, and the anatomical preparations of little interest;—with the resources of the hospital, it ought, ere long, to rival any in Hampshire. Behind the chapel, at the extremity of the area, are the houses of the Commissioner or Governor, and the different officers, erected in 1796-8 by Messrs. Sheen. Behind the centre of the north wing is the dispensary, and on each side of the front area, the residences of the agent, steward, &c. the fumigating house, &c. where the clothes of all patients are cleansed, and kept alphabetically arranged. Behind the south wing are the wards for the lunatics, with large enclosures for their proper exercise, &c.: there are also baths for patients with infectious diseases.

This Hospital will contain eighteen hundred patients,

* Parliamentary Grant.

exclusive of nurses and attendants; a much larger number have, however, been occasionally accommodated during the war: and the most distinguished of the naval medical officers are employed. It is supplied with excellent water; and, with a view to cleanliness, all the drains, &c. are washed with salt-water twice every day. A circular tower behind the officers' houses formerly was used for the supply of water; but it is now abandoned, not being good enough for use, except for washing. A road leads in the rear of the hospital to Stoke and Angleseaville, passing the head of the lake, and many pleasant scenes.—"1758, Jan. 23, Towards carrying on the works at Haslar Hospital, 10,000*l.* — 1760, For Haslar Hospital, 10,000*l.*—1762, For completing Haslar, 7130*l.*" *

On Friday, June 24th, 1814, Alexander, Emperor of Russia, the Duchess of Oldenburg, the Imperial suite, and a large train of nobility, visited Haslar, minutely inspecting every part, and testifying their entire satisfaction at the comfort, order, and general system, which prevailed. When introduced into the Dispensary, and shown the arrangement of the medicines, &c. the Emperor remarked, laughing, "It is all very pretty—very pretty; but not good for the stomach," laying his hand on his breast.

Behind the hospital, and near the village of Stoke, is a triangular pillar of rough stone, formerly used as a landmark, in connexion with a second, which stood in the situation of Monkton Fort. They were termed the *Kickergill* and *Gillkicker landmarks*. The derivation of these names we have not as yet been able to ascertain.

Lectures are delivered occasionally to the medical naval officers in the Library of the Museum, by Dr. James Scott, who was appointed first medical lecturer at the establishment in 1826,

* Parliamentary Grants, of which we were not able to obtain the whole amount.

PORTSMOUTH ROYAL DOCK-YARD AND NAVAL ARSENAL.

"Every thing is here conducted on the grandest scale, and, abstractedly considered, the efforts of human industry appear too weak and impotent to achieve the vast and important works here displayed."

THE Grand Naval Arsenal of England, the rendezvous and head-quarters of the British Navy, is the most capacious in the world, and every possible attention has been paid to the extension and improvement of it. The sea-wharf extends north and south on the western side of one of the noblest harbours in the universe: in length, three thousand five hundred feet; and the mean depth is two thousand feet, enclosing an area of nearly one hundred and twenty acres. The principal entrance is through a large pair of gates at the extremity of the Common Hard; on the right-hand side is a small portal for foot passengers; above which, on a stone slab, is the following inscription and date of the wall erected in the reign of Queen Anne, by which it is enclosed on the land-side. "This wall was begun on the 4th of June, and was finished on the 13th of December, 1711." It is of great height and thickness. Above the great gate are the initials G. R.; and on the left a lofty flag-staff, on which is displayed, on state occasions, the Imperial Standard of the United Kingdom.

"Also for mayntening of the Great Ships' Dock at Portesmouth, and calkyng of all the ships, yt cannot be nerly esteemed." (Rolls marked 14 B xxij-iij-iv. formerly in Henry the Eighth's Library.) The expenses of the King's Shippes in 31 Hen. VIII. 1425*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.* per month, 1613 seamen.

A. D. 1650. This dock had no mast-house, no dry dock, not above one hundred shipwrights, and only one team of horses.

A. D. 1661. "There was no dry dock in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; nor until the taking of Jamaica, only one hundred shipwrights and about forty or fifty labourers.—John Hatch was the builder, who left manuscripts to this effect."*

Immediately on entering the yard, the residence of the principal Warder presents itself; and on the opposite side, a lodge, furnished with seats for the accommodation of visitors. "The warder of the gate is not to permit any stranger, or improper person, or foreigner, to pass the gate." We have transcribed the above, because strangers often feel aggrieved at being refused admission. It is better for visitors to obtain an order from the Commissioner, or take some respectable inhabitant of the towns with them. Visitors should be at the gates at ten o'clock precisely. On entering, they are requested to enter their names in a book kept for the purpose; and the various objects are then pointed out by a proper attendant. The hours for inspection are from ten till three in summer, and from ten till two in winter.

On leaving the lodge, the first objects of interest are the ranges of Mast-houses,—low gavel-fronted buildings, on the left of the carriage-road, extending on an inclined plane to the water's edge of the harbour.

"A. D. 1790, began driving piles at the south end of the watering-island and Common Hard, the head and dwarf stone wharf to the mast-house and slip, the wall returning eastward formed at this time."† On the right appears a large square excavation, containing salt-water, and termed a Mast-pond, used for preserving and seasoning timber. On the farther side of the pond, which has a communication with the harbour, are the mansions of the Commissioner, the School of Naval Architecture, &c. At the two ends of the mast-pond, locks are constructed for the stowing away mast-timber under water; and, according to plans formed in 1764, and contracts made in

* Manuscripts of Thomas Waite and Isaac Hancock, Quartermen.
† Rankin's MSS.

1773, a very large piece of new ground, till then overflowed by the sea, had begun to be enclosed and embanked for a second Mast-pond. This work was ordered to be discontinued in 1796, from reasons represented to the Admiralty, and detailed before the Committee of Finance appointed by Parliament. Had it been suffered to proceed at the same slow rate it did for the six years it was in progress, it would have required for its completion 176 years, and the expense to the public would have been 132 millions.—"1786, Stone piers for the new mast-pond, 4320*l.*—1787, Wharfs north side of new mast-pond, 4483*l.*—1789, Works continued, 3496*l.* 4s. 6*d.* —1792, Mast-house slip, 265*l.* 19s. 4d.—1793, Wharfs of the new pond, 2085*l.* 16s. 8d. Wharfs of the inner mast-pond, 3561*l.* 16s.—1794, Wharfs of the inner mast-pond, 4390*l.* 11s. 8d. North wharf to new mast-pond, 1689*l.* 7s. 2d.—1795, Works to the inner mast-pond, 4627*l.* 11s. 6d. Dwarf wall and slips outer mast-pond, 1400*l.* 16s. 8d. North wharf of the same, 1272*l.* 6s. 5d.—1796, Works continued, 1417*l.* 16s. 9d.—1797, North side of new mast-pond, 657*l.* 1s. 2d."* For new mast-houses, and proceeding with locks in the mast-pond, 20,000*l.* North and south jetties, 16,000*l.*† Mast-pond, mast-houses, locks, drains, &c. 20,000*l.*‡

A. D. 1770, July 17th, 3 a. m. a fire destroyed the rope, mast, and oar-houses, with the carpenters' shop, together with all the most valuable materials: the loss was incalculable, and never could be ascertained. In these sheds are manufactured the masts and yards for the Royal Navy; and here may be seen the masts of many celebrated ships, remarkable for being splintered by shot, or shattered by lightning.

Beyond the inner Mast-pond are several stores and enclosed yards; and in a line with these is the Anchor Depository, extending a great length, and paved: in this place are deposited the anchors of the Royal Navy to the number of hundreds; they are arranged with the greatest regularity, and painted white to preserve them from the influence of the atmosphere. Many of these anchors weigh from ninety to ninety-five hundred weight

* Rankin. † Parliamentary Grants for 1799. ‡ Grant 1809.

each. A first-rate line of battle ship carries four such anchors, being in weight three hundred and sixty cwt. and of the value of one thousand six hundred and sixty-four pounds sterling, besides several others of great size and proportionate value.

The next object of interest is the Ropery, or Rope-house, three stories high, fifty-four feet wide, and one thousand and ninety-four in length. The perspective formed by the interior of this edifice has a singular effect: through the long vista the workmen appear diminished to mere dwarfs. The building is paved with cast-iron and tin, to prevent accidents by fire. The preparation of the hemp takes place in the upper stories, where it is spun into threads; the cables are manufactured on the ground floor; and the work is so laborious (though lightened in every possible way by machinery), that the workmen continue their labour but a few hours in the day. Some of the immense engines by which the cables are made, are seen on entering the building. Some idea of the severity of the work may be formed from the following statement:—"The laying of a cable of twenty-three inches is performed by the simultaneous exertion of one hundred and eighty men, and requires upwards of an hour of the most strenuous exertion of strength, especially on the part of those stationed at the cranks, who not unfrequently burst a blood-vessel by the severity of the continued labour." The process of passing the yarns through heated tar, and drawing them through the apertures of an iron plate, is performed by a steam-engine of six-horse power, and of a peculiar construction. The rope-house and buildings connected with it have repeatedly suffered from fires.—A. D. 1760, July 3rd, at midnight, two of the principal stores, containing tar, oil, and turpentine, hemp and dry stores, were entirely destroyed by the effects of lightning during a storm: the damage was above 40,000*l.*—A. D. 1770, July 27th, at five o'clock in the morning, a fire broke out in the rope-house, destroying the tar and pitch stores, the laying and spinning-houses, and other valuable buildings; bursting forth at four different places at once. The damage done amounted to 149,000*l.* The

fire, which was generally considered the act of some incendiary, was not extinguished till three o'clock in the afternoon.—A. D. 1776, December 7th, the destruction of the rope-house was effected by John Aitkin, alias Jack the Painter. The fire was at the time considered accidental, but a hollow piece of wood being found under some hemp in the following January, filled with combustibles covered with tin full of holes, and which had evidently been inflamed by a tube and match at one end, discovered the atrocious offender, who was taken, tried at Winchester, found guilty, was led through the yard, and shown the devastation he had caused, and executed on March 10th, 1777, at the dock gates, on a gibbet sixty-four feet and a half high (formed from the mizen-mast of the Arethusa), and afterwards hung in chains on Block-house Beach. He acknowledged the justness of his sentence, was penitent, and decent in his behaviour, and advised the Government to be more vigilant. The damage done at this time amounted to 60,000*l.* Some sailors took the skeleton of this wretched man down some years after his execution, placed it in a sack, and left it in the chimney-corner of a public-house at Gosport.

Whenever the King visits the town of Portsmouth in state, it is an ancient custom for the ropemakers of the Dock-yard to precede the royal carriage from the boundary of the borough, uniformly dressed, bearing white staves and the national flag, and wearing blue sashes across the shoulder. The last time the ceremony took place was on the visit of the Regent and the allied Sovereigns, in 1814.

In a line behind the Docks extend the Officers' offices, contracted to be erected by Messrs. Parlby on June 6th, 1786, and finished in 1788, being a handsome and commodious range of brick buildings, with a large archway in the centre, fitted with every convenience, and commanding a view of the Docks. Near these are the quadrangular stores, the joiners' shops, saw-pits, &c. About forty years ago there was a row of trees in the front of the old offices, which were built of wood, and very low; and in front was a stone pillar and globe (still in the masons' yard), which acted as a sun-dial.

"A. D. 1786, Works to offices, joiners' shops, and saw-pits, 960*l.* — 1787, Offices, 5424*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*; House-carpenters' shop, 2300*l.*—1788, Shops, 1280*l.*; offices, 1198*l.* — 1789, Works to new stores at south end of officers' lodgings, 6328*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.* — 1790, New stores, 6777*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.*—1791, Stores, 252*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*"*

In parallel lines along the sea-wharfs, are placed the noble structures denominated the two Sea Store-houses and the two Hemp-stores, magnificent brick erections, with doorways, window-sills, and Tuscan cornices of Portland stone, extending eight hundred feet in length, and nearly sixty feet wide. Above the centre archway of these stores, a lofty circular Observatory was in 1813 erected under the direction of the Honourable Sir George Grey, Bart. and the late Nicholas Vass, Esq. master house-carpenter of the arsenal: it is a landmark for ships at Spithead, and from the summit is a noble view. In a parallel line on the other side of the canal is a second range of Stores, the Rigging-house and Sail-loft, six hundred feet long, and of proportionate breadth: in the middle of the centre store is a noble tower, containing a clock, by which the time of the workmen is regulated.

"A.D. 1777, February 18, Messrs. Templar, Parlby, and Templar, contract for erecting the middle store fronting the Camber, together with a clock-cupola, and to take in hand the foundation of the intended rigging-house and store on the west side of the Camber, of materials mentioned in 1764, March 9th: the store to be two hundred and ten feet long and fifty-one feet broad; the old buildings on this site to be removed, and the rubbish to be used in raising the new ground; the buildings to be of the Tuscan order.—1782–83–84, Works executed for the storehouses for fitted rigging, rigging-houses, and rigging stores, and the new south storehouse, 9000*l.*" †

The internal arrangement of these stores is most convenient; and although the quantity of naval necessaries is so immense, so great is the order and regularity that any article can be obtained at the shortest notice, without the least confusion. Magnificent archways afford

* Rankin's Papers. † Templar's MSS.

means of ready communication from the several parts of the yard through these buildings. "Near the extremity, and in the centre of the present roadway, formerly stood a lofty wooden building, used for the original block-manufactory: there was a staircase to the summit, externally. I went to the top to see the explosion of the Boyne."*

Between the ranges of storehouses there is a deep canal or Camber, faced with stone, and wharfs on each side, extending six hundred and sixty feet, and of sufficient depth and capacity to admit transports and merchant-ships bringing stores to the Docks.

"1773, August 27, James Templar and Thomas Parlby contract to carry on and complete all the wharfs of the Camber, Mast-pond, piers, &c. deepening it, setting the stone in terras, with gates at the extremities; to be lined with Portland stone; six hundred feet per year to be completed." Signed September 3, 1773.† "Value of the works performed at the Camber wharfs, between May 16th, 1774, and September 27th, 1776, 14,493*l.* 11s. 10d.; 1780-82-83-84, Works to the Camber, digging foundations, pumping, &c. 20,807*l.* 19s. 3d.; 1785, Works at the Camber, 480*l.*"‡

On the sea-side of the stores extend the immense wharfs, from the gates to the King's stairs, or landing-place: some portions of these wharfs were formed under the superintendence of the celebrated Smeaton; where now the landing-place is, was a large hulk, called the Landing-hulk; many of the wharfs were formed towards the close of last century. "1782-3-4, Works to the wharfs at the watering-island, 8131*l.* 5s. 10d.; Wharfs at the landing-hulk, 4230*l.* 14s.; 1785, South wharf at the watering-island, 5350*l.* 8s. 4d.; at the landing-hulk, 3400*l.*" 1787, Thomas Parlby contracted to erect a stone wharf between the south dock and the landing-place. Expenses of the wharf in 1788, 2632*l.*; 1789, Dams for its erection, 1626*l.* 17s. 4d. It was completed in April 1790.

For national importance, for grandeur of design and magnificence, and for utility, the docks of Portsmouth-

* Private journal of a gentleman. † MS. Contract Books.
‡ Rankin's MSS.

yard surpass every other public fabric. In the centre of the wharf wall, facing the harbour, is the entrance into the great basin, whose dimensions are 380 by 260 feet, and its area two acres and an eighth. This basin was originally one third less than at present, but, under the superintendence of General Sir Samuel Bentham, (see his letter to the Admiralty, dated May 29th, 1795,) was much improved, enlarged, and rendered in every way worthy the first British naval port. "The Admiralty order for carrying this work into execution is dated October 8, 1795, comprehending, first, an enlargement of the basin, the construction of two additional docks within the basin, and the formation of three long jetties, at an estimated expense of 231,000*l.*"

"1796, Works to the wharfs, docks and basin, agreeable to General Bentham's plan, 14,973*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*

"1797, The works continued, 19,839*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.*

"1798, The works continued, 22,149*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*

"The dam opposite the entrance to the basin in order of formation, from September 24, to October 25, 1798.

"1799 March 11, I laid the first stone of the inverted arch for the entrance to the great basin. (47,680*l.* voted by Parliament for carrying on these great national works.)

"1799, Works to walls for the enlargement of the basin with a new entrance from the harbour, together with entrances to the two new docks, according to General Bentham's plan, 19,039*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.*

"1800, Basin, removing earth, cleaning masonry, and constructing a dam, 1185*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*

"1801, Works, taking out earth to the depth proposed, clearing away dam, and completing the granite walls of the great basin, 2540*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*

"1803, February 1. The basin still in progress of deepening to the amount of 2577¼ yards; and altars, slips, drains, inverted archways forming."†

By means of these works, ships of the line, at any draught of water at which they can come into the har-

* Evidence to the Committee of Finance, April 5, 1798.

† Extracted from the MSS. of the late J. Rankin, Esq.

bour, can, with all in, be fitted and equipped, even to the taking in of water, entirely within the boundaries of the Dock-yard; and by these means, such a degree of despatch has been obtained, that ships coming in from sea have been taken into dock even at neap tide, undergone repairs, and have sailed again for their station in as few days as the weeks that were requisite for the performance of the same business before these accommodations were provided; and one dock has been made to answer the purpose for which three or four docks would otherwise have been requisite. Twelve ships are capable of being fitted at the Dock-yard at one time, and six ships may by these means be undocked (one from each of the six docks), and six other ships taken into dock in the same tide; and this succession may be repeated without the least interference between ship and ship, and as fast as the ships last out of dock can be taken away to their moorings.*

The entrance to the great basin from the harbour is fitted with a floating dam or caissoon, which serves instead of gates. This dam is built in the shape of a Greenland boat, and fits at each extremity into proper groves in the masonry. It is easy of repairs, and affords a broad carriage-road at the top, and is opened and closed with facility. It was an invention of General Bentham.

Into the basin open four excellent dry docks, and on each of its sides is a dry dock opening into the harbour: these are termed the South, North, North-east, and Middle; North dock in the basin, and South dock in the basin. Some idea of the expense of their formation may be formed from the following estimates, which we have extracted from the manuscripts of the contractors for the works.

1790, August 11. New Dock proposed. The earth removing this month. The south pier forming.

1790, Works to the stone wharf, south pier, and dam of the new dock. 3330*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*

1791, Dec. 31. Began driving foundation-piles for the south side of the new south dock.

1791, Expenses of the stone wharf, and south pier of the new dock, 11,400*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*

* Bentham's report to the Admiralty, in 1795, and statement of services.

1792, March 3. Began setting Portland stone for the south side of the new dock. (The contract for its formation being dated January 2, 1792.)

1792, Works to the south dock, (average price 22*l.* 10*s.* per rod) 11,072*l.* 12*s.*

1793, Works continued, 18,328*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*

1794, Ditto, 13,952*l.* 2*s.*

1795, Works continued at an expense of 1400*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*

1799, Works continued, (25,000*l.* being voted by Parliament) 3548*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.*

1800, New Parallel Dock formed, at 22*l.* 10*s.* per rod.

1800, Works to the new south dock in the basin in this year, 21,981*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.* Works to the south-east dock, consisting of excavations and masonry, 221*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.*

1801, Works to the south dock in the basin and drains, 9663*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*; and works to the new south-east dock in the basin and drains, 10,099*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

1802, March 26. The east side of the south-east dock in the basin, the length sixty-feet, now in progress, Works to the new south-east dock in the basin, 16,564*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.*

"1803–6. The tunnel and drain from the south-east dock to the Mast-pond, now in progress."*

The Docks are, in general, about twenty-two feet deep, and are lined throughout with Portland and Purbeck stone (the saving by the use of the latter being, according to General Bentham, under whose immediate superintendence they were formed, 15,000*l.* in each dock); and in the formation of them the beds of gravel forming the superstrata of the island were cut through, and the indurated clay beneath exposed, which will give some idea of the depth of the foundations. The communication of the docks and basin is by means of swinging gates, which open in the centre and lie flat against the side-walls of the passage or entrance. Above the gates are foot-bridges of communication. Ships are taken into dock at high-tide, and the gates being closed and secured,

* MSS.

the water is pumped out by the steam-engines, which, with two pumps, make eighteen strokes, raising twenty tons of water a minute, which passes into a reservoir. On the site of the basin was an ancient dock, formed of timber, bolted and trunnelled together, the sides being formed, in many places, of whole trees: on the removal of this, which was called Cromwell's Dock, many large stone cannon-balls were found.

" 330	0	14,520	0
22	0	Sides of Dock.	
395	0	26,860	0
Width 63	0	Bottom and apron of Dock.	

"Old Dock of wood, length from head of the pier to the head of the dock, measured along the sides 330 feet on each side. The bottom of the dock 395 feet long; depth 22 feet; the wharfs on the outside of the piers 40 feet on each side; and depth 22 feet."*

Besides the docks above mentioned, there is a double-dock for frigates; the Camber head dock communicating with a basin two-hundred-and-fifty feet square, and the Camber stern dock opening by a lock into the harbour. Previous to 1798, these docks consisted of a canal, terminating in a pond, the water flowing in and out at every tide: they were converted into their present form, under the direction and at the suggestion of General Bentham. The sums of money paid for wharfs, &c. in this part of the yard are as follows:—

"1782-3-4, Works to the boat-house channel, slip-way, &c. 2146*l.* 9s. 2d., exclusive of discount.—1785, Wharfs in front of the boat-house, 960*l.*; wharfs at the south end of the boat-pond, 480*l.*—1786, Stone wharfs at the east end of the boat-pond, (exclusive of discount,) 2886*l.*—1788, Wharf north side of the boat-pond, and works in the boat-house channel, 7080*l.*† Iron and boat-stores, 7584*l.*—1789, Iron and boat stores, 902*l.* 18s. 2d. Wharfs at the south side of the boat-house channel, 1518*l.* 0s. 4d.—1790, Wharfs for the boat-house chan-

* Parlby and Rankin's Papers, Nov. 22, 1794.

† "This wharf on the north side of the boat-house channel, I began to work on August 16; and I began the foundations of Purbeck stone on September 2nd, 1788."—MSS. Rankin.

nel, 1730*l.* 2s. 2d.—1791, Wharfs continued, 2832*l.* 16s. 4d.—1792, Wharfs continued with the formation of a dam, 1683*l.* 8s. 9d.—1794, Boat-house channel, 82*l.* 9s. 6d.—1795, Channel continued, 274*l.* 15s.—1796, Wharfs and slips on the south side of boat-house channel, 904*l.* 11s. 3d.—1797, Wharfs and slip on the south side of the channel, 1349*l.* 10s.—1798, Works continued, 742*l.* 15s. 5d.—1800, Works to the long dock in the boat-house channel, agreeable to Sir S. Bentham's plan, 1297*l.* 10s. 11d.—1801, New works continued, 2003*l.* 15s. 2d.—1802, Works continued, 193*l.* 5s. 10d. the docks being in this year widened. These docks are intended for the reception of frigates and small ships of war."

"A. D. 1777, July 26. New bottom and sides to the old north dock made at an expense of 13,883*l.* 2s. 1d."*

Within these docks strangers will view with astonishment all the processes of ship-building and repair, on the most magnificent scale; and, in the basin, ships are received, when necessary, to be examined with all their standing and running rigging. Within these few years the docks have been covered with immense roofs of wood and slating, from the designs of Sir Robert Seppings: light is admitted by numerous glazed windows in the roof, and the sides are supported by rows of wooden pillars. The cost of one of these roofs is between 6000*l.* and 7000*l.*; but the ship is found to be so much better preserved, as fully to warrant the expense. The most extraordinary appearance is the immense expanse of these roofs, and the absence of cross beams; they are supported on the principle of trussing.—"For many years great expenses were incurred in the formation of a double dock, &c. in the yard; but, on the suggestion of Sir S. Bentham, the work was begun by an order of the Admiralty, on October the 10th, 1795. The nature of it was, a double dock for two ships of the line, a single graving dock, five jetties, and repairs to the original basin, at an estimated expense of 260,000*l.*; this work was afterwards superseded, by the enlargement of the basin," &c.†

* Templar, and Parlby's MSS.

† Evidence to the Committee of Finance.—Parliamentary Records.

1793, Dams for double dock, 804*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*—1714, Dams, 1000*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.*—1795, Wharfs and piers of the double dock, 2068*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.*

Dreadful accident at the launching of the Princess Charlotte, September 14th, 1825.

On Wednesday at twelve minutes past twelve, his Majesty's ship Princess Charlotte, intended to carry 110 guns (the largest ship ever built here) was launched at this dock-yard, in the presence of an immense concourse of spectators, who saw this stupendous fabric majestically glide into that element in which she was destined to float, in the perfectness of combined superior skill and science. His Royal Highness the Prince Leopold came from Claremont, attended by Sir Robert Gardner and General Wetherall, purposely to witness the launch of the ship named after his late consort. But whilst this event was passing in view of tens of thousands of persons, with all the interest and admiring feelings which so magnificent a spectacle must ever produce, the appalled attention of a vast number of persons was arrested, in their way to the sight, by a more afflicting and terrific accident than a long course of past eventful years of war produced here, and which took place about ten minutes before the ship went off the slip. Over the gates of every dock, in this dock-yard, and connected therewith by iron stancheons, is thrown a light bridge or brow, of four planks width, for the general convenience of passing to and fro, and shortening the distance to various parts of the yard. In the short passage from the entrance of the dock-yard to the slip on which the Princess Charlotte was built, are three of these bridges, each about seventy feet long. Connected with the first bridge is a spacious basin, into which it was intended the Princess Charlotte, on being launched, should be floated, preparatory to being taken into what is called the angular dock, to be coppered. An increased quantity of water had been let into the basin for the purpose. At the hour of twelve o'clock, this bridge was crowded with persons passing over it to view the launch, when the weight of the water in the basin (and probably agitated by the motion kept up on the bridge) pressed so ponderously against the dock-gates, that they

broke into pieces, and in an instant the dock was filled by a tremendous rush of water from the basin, carrying along in its resistless course, the gates in fragments, bridge, rails, work-stages, and all the passengers on the bridge, excepting such only as were within a few feet of the extremities. Immediately a dreadful crash was heard, and a scream from the persons precipitated into the water; at the same instant a tremendous rush of water issued into the dock, which was impelled with a rapidity not to be conceived but by those who saw it, forming a stupendous wave, bearing on its surface many of the struggling sufferers, mingled with large fragments of broken timber, all which was dashed with inconceivable fury against the farther end of the dock, and which, from its impetuosity, again rebounded in a curling wave, whose height was at least ten or twelve feet above the level of the yard, carrying in the tremendous conflict the bodies of the sufferers, large pieces of timber, cloaks, hats, and clothes of the unfortunate victims, and again rushed back to fill the hollow which had been created in the surface by its own velocity. A momentary stupor took possession of the mind, which was affected by the conviction, that the unfortunate victims must, in that instant, have been dashed to inevitable death against the stonework of the basin. The silence was but for a moment; for immediately afterwards appeared in different parts of the basin the bodies of the sufferers, some in the agonies of death, others in a state of insensibility, and one or two apparently not much injured, but still exposed not only to the horrors of drowning, but to those of coming in contact with the pieces of shattered timber, which the agitated uproar of the water was dashing one against the other.

After the momentary violence of the water had ceased, exertions were made by every person on the spot to rescue the sufferers; but, when it is considered that not less than five hundred tons of fluid fell instantaneously into the dock, sweeping away, in its immense impetuosity, all that before opposed its course, some slight idea may be formed of the magnitude of the danger in which the unhappy sufferers were engulphed, and surprise excited that any survived the catastrophe. By the most persevering activity, the bodies of seven dead persons were taken to

the dock-yard surgery in less than half an hour, and six persons were conveyed there, who had been rescued from the dock with bruises only. Mr. Cowan, surgeon of the dock-yard, and Dr. T. Cooke Jones, were soon on the spot, to afford assistance to the sufferers, and they were speedily assisted by the most strenuous efforts of most of the professional gentlemen of the town. But, such was the nature of the dreadful accident, that not one of the inanimate persons presented the least appearance of mere suspended animation, but they all had evidently been killed by violent bruises, from concussion among the wreck of the dock-gates, or against the sides of the dock. In the course of the night, eight more were grappled up; and on the following afternoon, the body of Mr. Deering, midshipman of his Majesty's ship Victory, was discovered, having floated out of the dock into the basin.

Disastrous, melancholy, and affecting as this calamity was, harrowing to the feelings, and exciting the keenest sensibility of the hearts of parents, relatives, friends, and neighbours, and the deepest sympathy of tens of thousands of persons who left their distant homes in the morning of the day with far different feelings; yet it must be gratefully acknowledged, that, under all the circumstances, as an afflicting providential occurrence, it was attended with a smaller comparative portion of human woe than any could venture to hope. Had the accident occurred in the working-hours of any day of the preceding week, not less than three hundred human beings would, most likely, have been the victims, and upwards of a thousand children have been fatherless. More than this number of men were then at work in the dock. Had it occurred an hour sooner than it did, nearly a hundred workmen would have probably perished. They had happily completed their work in getting the dock ready, and had gone to be spectators of the launch.

It will be asked, what was the immediate cause of the disaster? and was any one to blame for not having taken the necessary precautions? It is most satisfactory to say, that no blame could possibly attach to any one; the accident was attributable to existing circumstances, which either could not be foreseen, or at least could not be prevented. The construction of the gates was certainly

vastly inferior to those now built, and to that construction the catastrophe was partly owing; the defect was more in the workmanship than in the original design; the plank was fastened to the uprights by large wooden pins, both sufficiently substantial, and much less decayed than could have been expected, certainly not enough to have led to any ill consequences; but the pins were too large and too numerous, and left the wood so weakened, that it was unequal to the pressure, and gave way at the pin-holes. In addition to this, from the relative situations of the moon and the earth, the tide was much higher than usual, at least twelve to eighteen inches; and it is probable, too, that this was partly occasioned by the situation of the Queen Charlotte, which directed several inches of water into the basin, more than would otherwise have flowed into it. The pressure of the water on the gates was equal to a weight of about 520 tons; and as all these circumstances together contributed to create an equilibrium between the pressure of the water and the strength of the gates, several circumstances, though of a minute kind, would contribute to produce this effect: of this kind would be the concussion from the guns, and any increased action of the water. The weight of persons on the bridge, supposing them even fifty, might be equal to a perpendicular pressure of a few tons, and, as the pressure was inward, if this weight acted in the same character, would contribute to produce the result. The gates of the dock were built on the plan of the late General Bentham.

Copy of a letter from Sir George Grey, Bart.

"As it is not improbable that erroneous statements of the fatal accident which occurred upon the day on which the Princess Charlotte was launched from the dock-yard at this port, may obtain currency, it will no doubt be satisfactory to the public to receive an authenticated account from me of this melancholy event. On Wednesday, the day of the launch, the tide rose so rapidly and to so unusual a height that the ship was obliged to be launched sooner than was anticipated; the same great rise of water occasioned such a powerful pressure against the gates of the south-east dock in the basin as to cause them to burst inwards and to carry

with impetuous violence into the empty dock, the bridge which rested upon the gates, and, with the bridge, the persons who were unfortunately passing over it at the time on their way to see the launch. The torrent of water which rushed into the vacant dock below, overwhelmed the unhappy individuals; and I grieve to say, that notwithstanding the active and prompt exertions of those who beheld the dreadful catastrophe, and of the boats which immediately hastened to the spot, but few persons were rescued from their perilous situations. The proper means were immediately resorted to for the recovery of those who were picked up, in which the surgeons of the dock-yard were most humanely and ably assisted by the medical gentlemen of the place. The following is the list of those who were restored to life, and of those who are known to have perished:

"Restored to life:—Mr. Sabben, St. George's square, Portsea; Mrs. Bloomfield (a soldier's wife), the infant of ditto, the sister of ditto; Mrs. Mitchell, of Charlotte's row, and the daughter of ditto; a boy, name unknown.

"Drowned:—Mr. Deering, a Midshipman of the Victory; Mr. Starfield, a Custom-house officer (has left three children); Mr. Showers; Mr. Hart, Portsmouth, the daughter of ditto, aged 17, and nephew of ditto, aged 7; a man servant of Mrs. Osborne, of Broomfield House. Young women—Froggett, aged 20, daughter of a labourer; Knight, 18, Ditto, 14, daughters of a sawyer. Boys—Bull, 2; Taylor, 15, painter's apprentice; Hewett, 14, father a wheelwright: Nineham, 14, father a shipwright; Leal, 12, mother a widow with seven children; Hawse, 13, father a shipwright.

"Every exertion was made to find the bodies of other sufferers, and every endeavour to ascertain what persons were missing. From the best information I have been able to obtain, it appears that there may be still five or six bodies not found, but this is as yet uncertain. The list already given tells a melancholy tale, but it is consolatory to my own feelings, as it will be to the relatives of the sufferers, and satisfactory to the public generally, that no human foresight could have averted the dreadful calamity, and that it was entirely unconnected with the preparations made for the launch; and farther, that it

happened at a time when providentially no persons were employed at work in the dock, for had that been the case, the disaster, severe as it is, would have been tenfold greater. "GEORGE GREY, Commissioner.

"Portsmouth Dock-yard, 17th September, 1825."

Mr. John Payne, of Kingston, was the gentleman who jumped into the dock, and by his persevering intrepidity was happily the means of rescuing Mrs. Mitchell from drowning. Mr. Cowan, surgeon of his Majesty's Dock-yard, returned his best thanks to the medical gentlemen of the place and its neighbourhood, for the prompt and efficacious professional assistance which they rendered in his department, on the calamitous occasion.

The bodies of the sufferers were interred in Kingston church-yard on Sunday evening, attended by a large concourse of sympathizing spectators. The solemn accident was the subject of pulpit-address in most places of worship in the towns. A subscription was very kindly opened for the benefit of the bereaved families.

Wells for the supply of his Majesty's fleets immediately from the wharf-side; for the steam-engines, and for the various purposes of the yard, were first proposed by Sir Samuel Bentham, on October the 27th, 1801, and executed under his superintendence as Inspector-general. The original supply not being adequate to the demand of two hundred tons daily, a new boring has been lately finished, being eighteen inches in diameter, and the largest ever attempted. The water is obtained from a stratum of sand, at a depth of near three hundred feet, and is so abundant as to rise within twenty-five feet of the surface of the yard. This new boring was executed under the immediate superintendence of S. Goodrich, Esq.; and a beautiful diagram of the mode of its formation, the machines, with specimens of the geological stratification, is in the Portsmouth Museum. For the better securing the dock from the ravages of fire, an apparatus was contrived and erected by Sir Samuel Bentham, between March the 20th, 1786, April the 17th, 1796, December the 21st, 1797; continued on October the 29th, 1799—1801-2, and completed on April the 8th, 1808: which consists of an elevated reser-

voir, into which water is raised by the steam-engines, and from which it is distributed by pipes (so arranged that the water flows by two different courses to the same point), passing by all the principal buildings, along the sides of the docks, and to the jetties; and means are also provided for raising, by the steam-engines, immense supplies of salt or fresh water, and forcing it over all the stores and buildings, and the ships within or contiguous to the dock.

"1799.—Previous to this time, there existed in the centre of the yard, a square excavation, about three quarters of an acre in extent, and lined with masonry to a depth of thirty feet below the level of the yard; it was only used to receive the water when let run out of the docks, so that only five or six feet from the bottom was occasionally employed, but the twenty-five feet above, up to the level of the yard, constantly useless. This useful portion of the reservoir has been arched over, and, above that, cellars, stores, smiths'-shop, and a seasoning-house for timber have been constructed; over a part of this cellaring, the wood-mills and steam-engine houses have been erected, and the rest is useful for spreading timber, &c. and, being in the very centre of the yard, cannot but be considered of considerable value."*

1789, March 11, For taking down and rebuilding the north side of the reservoir, 10,000*l.*†—"May 16, Began digging the back of the reservoir.—1790, January the 7th, Laid the first stone of the north-east buttress; the north side of the reservoir which was in progress from August the 22nd, 1787, till 1790.—1790, Reservoir works, 79*l.* 11s. 7d.—1791, Works continued, 315*l.* 4s. 8d.—1791, Works to the north side of the reservoir, 7639*l.* 14s. 4d."

1797, December 21. On the occasion of a new set of pumps being required for clearing the docks, General Bentham proposed giving motion to them by a steam-engine; and one which had been erected at Redbridge was applied to the purpose, being the first steam-engine erected and used in Hampshire. Its advantages having been fully ascertained, one of the immense engines now used, was erected by Messrs. Bolton and Watt, in 1801,

* Bentham's Statement of Services. † Parliamentary Grant.

and first set to work on the 11th of April of that year; lest, however, this engine should be overloaded by the infinite variety of work, a second has been added to assist, if found necessary, or to substitute in case of accident.

At a short distance from the docks are situated the Wood Mills. In these buildings all manner of sawing, turning, boring, rabbeting, &c. are performed to the amount of above a hundred different articles of woodwork, from the boring of a pump forty feet in length, to the turning of a button for the knob or handle of a drawer. The machines are impelled by steam, and the motions carried on by straps passing over drum-heads, by which the several movements, numerous as they are, are carried on without the least noise; and all the engine work, and every part of the machinery, are so truly made and so firmly put together, and work with such accuracy in all their motions, that though the spectator is surrounded on all sides with movements in every possible direction, and some most rapid and violent, the only noise which disturbs him arises from the instruments actually in contact with the work under execution, and none from the working of the machinery. All the iron work, of which it is chiefly composed, was made by Mawdsley, and is finished in a manner quite worthy of the invention.

About 1802, Mr. Mark Joumbard, an ingenious machinist from America, having completed a working model of certain machines for making, by an improved process, the shells and sheaves of blocks, and it being the intention of Government to introduce, among the other improvements then carrying on at Portsmouth-yard, a set of machines for this purpose: the model was referred to General Bentham, Inspector-general of Naval works, by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, who did not hesitate to recommend it strongly, as an invention which would enable Government to construct blocks with an extraordinary degree of celerity and exactness, and of every description and size, and with a degree of uniformity, accuracy, and cheapness hitherto unknown. Accordingly, such parts of the engines as Brunell had completed in London were transferred to Portsmouth, and in the course of the year 1804 were in operation; but the in-

creased number of machines, the improvements which suggested themselves to the ingenious inventor, the application of other engines for making dead-eyes, trucks, and all kinds of block-makers wares, besides circular and upright saws, lathes, engines for turning pins, riveting, polishing, &c. exercised his skill so long as from September 1802 to June 1808, when he pronounced it to be complete in every part, incapable of farther improvement; and it now stands a noble monument to his ingenuity, and one of the most splendid and extraordinary pieces of mechanism in the known world, consisting of forty-four engines. From that time to the present they have been in full and constant activity, without requiring the least alteration, and little repair, and without requiring the aid of the inventors, being attended by the ingenious workmen only. The quantity of blocks manufactured in one year is from 130,000 to 140,000, of all sorts and sizes, the total value of which is not less than 50,000*l.* (of which a seventy-four gun ship requires 1430); and though at one time in the late war there were in commission one thousand sail of ships, this machine was fully adequate to the supply of the whole British navy and the Board of Ordnance, and could, if pushed to the full extent of the works, supply the greater part of the ships employed in the transport service. Four men are able to manufacture with the machinery as many blocks as fifty by the old method, and six men will furnish as many sheaves as before required sixty; the manual labour required being only to supply the wood and remove the blocks from one engine to the other, until completed. Mr. Brunell received, as a compensation for this ingenious machinery,—for the working model 1000*l.* one guinea per day for about six years, making about 2000*l.* and the savings of one year as compared with the contract prices, calculated at 16,621*l.* Supposing, therefore, the whole cost of the building, steam-engine, machinery, interest of money, &c. to amount to 53,000*l.* and the net compensation for profits about 18,000*l.* on one year's manufactured articles of the value of 50,000*l.*, the whole expense of the concern was cleared in four years. As every body who inspects Portsmouth-dock makes a point of visiting the block machinery, we have

added a general idea of the more striking parts, by following the process from the rough unsided tree till the last finish is put to the block.

The first wing of the building is chiefly occupied by upright and circular saws, used for a variety of purposes not immediately connected with the making of blocks. The only operation for this department is that of converting rough timber into its proper scantling; that is, squaring it, and crop-cutting it into a certain number of parallelopipedons, whose lengths may bear the required proportion to the thickness of the log. Some of these pieces are again cut longitudinally, according to the thickness required for the shell of the block; and this operation is performed by what is called a ripping-saw. The logs thus cut are then taken into the second wing of the wood-mills, where the machinery peculiar for the construction of blocks is erected; and here the first process may be said to commence in making the shell.

This operation is performed by the Boring-machine, which, by means of a centre-bit applied to the middle of the shell, bores a hole for the centre pin of the sheave, whilst another bores one, two, or three holes at right angles with the first, to admit the first stroke of the chisel, and at the same time to serve for the head of the mortice, or mortices, according as the extended block is to contain one, two, or three sheaves. When thus bored, the log is carried from hence to the

Morticing Machine, which is an ingenious and striking piece of mechanism. The block being firmly fixed on a moveable carriage, the latter is so contrived as to be made to advance to the cutting-chisels, which are set fast in a moveable frame. Every time the frame, with the chisels, ascends, the block in its carriage advances a little, so as to present to the chisels a fresh surface of wood to be acted upon at each stroke of their descent; and this up-and-down motion is continued with such rapidity, that the chisels make from one hundred to one hundred and thirty strokes in a minute, until the prescribed length has been morticed out; when by raising a handle, which is done by a boy, the machine is stopped precisely when the chisels stand at their greatest elevation, and are thus left in a proper position, ready to com-

mence a second operation.—After this the blocks are taken to a Circular Saw, in order to have the four corners taken off, by which operation they are reduced to an octagonal shape. This saw being fixed in a table or bench, the workman has nothing more to do than to slide each log along the surface of the table, in the direction of the line marked out for the saw to cut it. The next operation is to place the block upon the

Shaping-machine, and this is perhaps one of the most ingenious and most effective contrivances in the whole machinery of the Wood Mills. It consists principally of two equal and parallel circular wheels, moving on the same axis, to which one of them is firmly fixed, but on which the other is made to slide; so that these two wheels may be placed at any given distance from each other, and blocks of any size admitted between their two rims or peripheries. For this purpose, both rims are divided into ten equal parts, for the reception of ten blocks, which are firmly and immovably fixed between the two wheels. When the double wheel, with its ten attached blocks, is put in motion, the outer surfaces of the blocks, or those which are farthest from the centre, strike with great violence against the edge of a chisel or gouge, fixed in a moveable frame, which being made to slide in a curved direction, in the line of the axis, cuts those outward faces of the blocks to their proper curvature, which can be altered in any way the workman pleases, by a contrivance attached to the cutting tool. As soon as the tool has traversed the whole length of the block, or over the space contained between the two peripheries of the wheels, the machine is thrown out of the gear, and its prodigious velocity checked by a particular contrivance. The ten blocks are then, by a single operation, and without removing them, each turned one fourth part round, and another fourth part of their surface brought outwards, which, being exposed to the cutting instrument, traversing in the same direction as before, have the same curvature given to these new surfaces; a third side is then turned outwards, and after that the fourth and last side, when the whole ten blocks are completely shaped, and ten other octagonal logs applied to the peripheries to undergo the same operation.

An iron guard is placed between the workman and machine, lest, from the immense velocity with which the wheels revolve, any of the blocks may be thrown off.

The shell of the block being now morticed, and completely shapen, the last operation is performed by the

Scoring-machine, which, by means of cutters, scoops out a groove round the longer diameter of the block, deepest at the ends, and vanishing to the central hole, for the pin on which the sheave turns. This groove is to receive the hempen or iron strap which surrounds the block. The only thing that now remains for completing the shell is the removal of the little roughnesses from the surface, and giving to it a kind of polish, which is done by the hand.

The Sheaves are made of Lignum Vitæ invariably. The machinery, consisting first of a circular saw, for cutting the wood into a proper thickness, according to their several diameters, these scales are next carried to the Crown Saw, which reduces them to a perfect circle, and bores the central hole. It is then placed in the Coaking-engine, a piece of mechanism not inferior to the Shaping-machine for the shells. It would be useless to attempt to describe by words the singularly curious movements of this machine, which forms three semicircles not concentric with each other, nor with the sheaves, but each having a centre equally distant from that of the sheaves. The manner in which the cutter traverses from each semicircle, never fails to attract the attention of visitors. So exact and accurate is the groove cut for the reception of the metallic coak, and so uniform are the latter cast in moulds, that they invariably fit each other so nicely and accurately, that a single tap from a hammer fixes the coak in its place.

The sheave thus fitted with the coak, is now taken to the Drilling-machine, which is kept in constant motion, and the moving drill speedily goes through the two coaks and the intermediate wood: a copper pin is then inserted into the holes thus drilled, and the sheave is applied under the Riveting Hammer, something like a small tilt hammer, which strikes with greater or less velocity and power, according to the will of the workman. The rivet-

ing thus performed, the next operation is broaching the central hole on which the sheave turns by steel drills or cutters. The last operation is turning the groove for the rope round the periphery of the sheave, performed by a lathe, which performs this operation and at the same time polishes the surfaces or faces; and this lathe can be adapted to sheaves of any diameter.

The iron pins on which the sheaves turn within the mortices of the blocks are also made, turned, polished, and fixed by numerous engines in the first floor of the mills, and may be seen in full operation.

We have thus given a short description of these celebrated works, humble, indeed, as compared to their utility or magnificence, but still we hope useful, as what we only aimed at, a guide to the stranger, not detail for the engineer. "From the first introduction in 1805, for a period of eight years, this establishment, together with the Metal mills, and the Millwright's establishment, were under the sole direction and management of Sir S. Bentham."*

Connected with the wood-mills is the Millwright's establishment (under the superintendence of our esteemed friend Mr. W. Kingstone,) where machinery of new kinds, improvements, repairs, plans, drawings, &c. are executed in the first style of excellence.

Along the edge of the harbour, extend the Building-slips, and the varied and truly national scenes of "Ship-building" in all its magnificence. 1764. Messrs. Templar and Collard contract to complete and finish the works of the new Slips. These slips for building are covered with immense roofs, in like manner as the docks, and are formed, together with the adjacent space for timber, on fourteen acres of land, taken about the middle of the last century (1764) from the mud lands, and raised to a level. On the Western side there has likewise been added a considerable piece of land, on which the five spacious storehouses are erected. It is from this part of the yard that the imposing spectacle of the ship-launch takes place, at which time the public are admitted, galleries are erected for the nobility, the shores are gradually removed, the wheel is applied, expectation is excited to

* Bentham's Statement.

the highest pitch of interest, and at length, amid the deafening shouts of assembled thousands and the loud burst of martial music, the gigantic fabric, christened by the hand of one of England's daughters, or by some noble of the land, rushes into her native element, to bear the meteor flag of Great Britain in proud superiority, and spread her fame and glory throughout the world.

"The wharfs and dams at the North boundary of the yard were begun November 9th, 1808, and finished May 16th, 1809; and the North, Middle, and South Building Slips, from April 8th, 1807, to July 4th, 1809.—1801, Works to North boundary walls and dam, 667*l.* 6s. 1d.—1809, Works continued, 1944*l.* 14s. 7d.—1803, Works continued, 5240*l.*—1809, Building Slips, 5000*l.*"*

The remaining portion of this part of the Arsenal, extending along the harbour to the fortifications, is appropriated to the cistern for seasoning timber, stone-masons' yards, saw-pits, stabling for horses, coal-yards, and a large boat-house, fully supplied with every description of boat ready for instant service; and beyond this a large lot-yard and stores for decayed timber, &c. which is sold at stated periods under certain regulations.

At the landing-place, or King's stairs, is a double flight of steps and a large guard-house, where a company of marines are constantly stationed.

The Metal-mills and Copper-foundry, consist of an iron-mill, copper-mill, and a copper-refinery, at which is smelted and rolled all the old copper which is taken from the ships bottoms; and here also are cast bolts, gudgeons, and various other articles of copper used in the navy. The number of sheets manufactured in one year of the war amounted to about 300,000, weighing about 12,000 tons, on which it has been calculated that a saving of at least 20,000*l.* was effected for the public, besides obtaining a good pure article. Most of these were constructed under the direction of General Bentham.

The copper is melted in vast furnaces of various forms, and after a series of preparation is rolled into long sheets

* Rankin's MSS.

by ponderous metallic rollers, set in motion by a steam-engine of fifty-six horse power. Thirty-five tons of ore have been manufactured in these mills in a single week. It is, however, impossible to describe the scenes of high interest which display themselves at every step in these establishments. The immense fires and yawning furnaces in every direction; the varied hues of the flames, from the deepest blue to the most intolerable blaze of incandescence; the clouds of vapour arising from the immersion of the plates of heated metal in reservoirs of water; the incessant roll of the immense fly-wheels of the steam-engine; and the changes of the hues of the fluid metal, under various degrees of liquefaction—besides these, the roaring of the fires, and the sullen sound of the engines, with the almost deafening tones produced by the immersions of the metal in water, keep the mind in a constant state of excitement. It requires 4123 sheets of copper to cover the bottom of a first-rate ship of war of one hundred and ten guns; and 20 cwt. 3 qrs. 4 lbs. of countersunk nails to fasten them on, and twenty reams of paper, to be placed between the timber and the metal; a ship of eighty guns requires 3388 sheets, and 25 cwt. 3 qrs. 4 lbs. of nails, with seventeen reams of paper; and a ship of fifty guns, 2226 sheets, with 18 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lbs. of nails, and fourteen reams of paper. These calculations will give some idea of the extent of these national concerns.

These mills, and the block machinery, are under the superintendence of the engineer and mechanist, an office of recent appointment, borne on the establishment of Portsmouth dock only; and they require a person of great skill and judgment, not only to keep them in order, but to suggest improvements and to examine any new inventions proposed in mechanics for his Majesty's service. This situation is at this time filled by S. Goodrich, Esq. a gentleman of the highest character in his profession. There are also other offices, filled by gentlemen of great talent; as the masters of the metal-mill, wood-mill, master millwrights, with salaries from 260*l.* to 200*l.* per annum. The principal engineer has 600*l.* per year (at Portsmouth only,) with a draughtsman and clerk.

The Smithery, or Anchor-forge, is on a most extensive scale, and to be justly comprehended must be seen. The spectator passes between fires of great magnitude, and masses of metal of gigantic proportions, now presenting a blaze of effulgence too vivid for the eye, and now resounding under the ponderous sledges of the workmen, while the metallic scoriæ fly off in every possible direction. The scene can only be compared to the classic description of the Vulcanian forge; while the Herculean forms of the artificers afford the finest possible models of human strength.

In this Smithery, the anchors for the navy are manufactured, many of them from 20 to 90 cwt., yet still in the nicest and most exact proportion. These ponderous masses are lifted on and off the fires by means of cranes; and the bellows, which are hung in pairs, require the aid of machinery to use them. On first entering the manufactory, the blaze and roaring of the fires, and the incessant din, are truly awful. At a short distance from these works, extend in the form of a square, which is used as a repository for immense piles of timber, the Carpenters, Wheelwrights, and Joiners shops; and opposite them, a fine and noble broad paved terrace, surrounded by a dwarf wall, shaded by rows of trees, and the residence of many of the principal officers. In the centre of the square, and opposite these buildings, stands, on a marble pedestal, the statue of William the Third, in the Roman costume, the gift of Col. Richard Norton, of Southwick-house; it is enclosed with iron palisades, having at each angle the regal crown, and on the pedestal is inscribed,

GULIELMO III.
Optimo Regi CIↃDCCXVII,
Ricardus Norton humillime D. D.

We now pass the Carver's shop and Mould-loft, in which the ornamental parts of naval architecture (the figure-heads, &c.) are manufactured; and near these, some other residences for the different officers.

At a short distance from these latter buildings stands the Dock Chapel. "1785, June 9th, Thomas Parlby

senior, and Thomas Parlby junior, and Co. contract to build a chapel, to be completed in the course of that year." It is a neat and elegant modern building, of the Venetian style of architecture. The front is surmounted with a columniated cupola, in which hangs the bell of the unfortunate Royal George. The windows in the lower tier are small, those in the upper very large; three in front, and six on each side, with a large Venetian and side windows to the square recess, in which stands the communion-table. The whole interior is elegant, and remarkably light, and the galleries are disposed round three sides, with enclosed staircases near the front door. The pews are large and handsome, and the Commissioner's furnished with brass rails and curtains. Previous to the present erection, the old dock chapel stood where now are situated the Commissioner's gardens; in appearance it was similar to Trinity Chapel, Gosport.

The Royal Naval College was founded by George the Second in 1720, and was much improved and enlarged under the auspices of George the Third, at whose particular request its original name of the Royal Academy was changed to that which it at present bears. The building is of dark brick, and of very great extent, being in the form of the letter H, and contains many noble apartments. Above the centre staircase, is a capacious dome, surmounted by a gilt ball; this was formerly used for astronomical purposes, but, not being sufficiently steady, a separate building in the rear is now appropriated. In one of the apartments are some fine astronomical instruments, and a large orrery, made by the ingenious Mr. Wright. The superb model of the Victory (originally here) has been removed to the Navy-office, London. In the school-room is a large tablet of the arms of the City of Quebec, taken from above the principal gateway after its capture by General Wolfe. To the left of the Hall is the dining-room, communicating with the Professor's apartments, occupying the whole left wing. The apartments of the Lieutenant-governor are handsome and well disposed: to the right is a large hall; and a second noble room occupies the whole extent of the right wing. Behind extend two ranges of apartments for

the students, an infirmary, &c. The extended space in front affords ample room for exercise.

"The number of students is one hundred in war, and seventy in peace: thirty to be sons of commissioned naval officers, who are to receive their education, board, lodging, clothing, at 60*l.* per annum; the remainder, sons of noblemen, civil and military officers to pay 100*l.* per annum. Age of admission from twelve to fourteen years. A bond or penalty of 200*l.* for the first class, and 100*l.* for the second class, to be levied on their friends in the event of a youth being withdrawn from the naval service before he has served the term for the commission of lieutenant, namely, six years; the college terms being reckoned as two. No student to remain more than three years; and, if qualified, to be discharged into a King's ship. The system of education is very liberal, and the College is furnished with instruments of the finest kind. The Governor is the First Lord of the Admiralty for the time being; a Lieutenant-governor; a Post Captain of the Navy with a salary of 800*l.* per annum, and apartments; four Naval Lieutenants, with 200*l.* per annum, and apartments, with allowance for board. A Professor, a graduate of Cambridge, with a salary of 800*l.* per annum, and apartments; three Assistant-masters, well-skilled in mathematics—the first with 250*l.* and two others with 200*l.* per annum each, with allowance for house-rent; besides masters for teaching drawing, fencing, and French, with salaries of 100*l.* per annum each, and two Serjeants of Marine Artillery. The Professor of the College has the charge, and keeps the rate of all the chronometers not in use belonging to the navy; and all midshipmen are now required to pass their examination in the theory of Navigation at the Naval College, before the Professor, the Lieutenant-governor, and the Admiral commanding in chief. The expenses of this establishmet and the School of Naval Architecture are about 7000*l.* per annum.

On the 7th of January, 1795, Mr. Robinson, in the House of Commons, urged the necessity of attending to the construction of our ships of war, on the ground of their acknowledged inferiority to those of the French. After a few remarks from Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Pitt, &c. a College with a board was recommended, for the improve-

ment of naval architecture. At a later period, commissioners were appointed by his Majesty George the Third, to revise the civil affairs of the navy, and to remove the evils pointed out.

In the second part of their third Report, headed "Present system of Education of Shipwrights," the Commissioners recommended the establishment of an institution for the purpose of improving the theoretic construction of the British navy. In accordance with their views, by the King's order in Council, of September the 20th, 1809, a superior class of shipwrights was established at his Majesty's Dock-yard, Portsmouth. The institution was planned on the most liberal principles, no other eligibility being required for admittance than the candidates being subjects of Great Britain. They are examined, previous to admission, before the Commissioners of the Dock-yard, the Professor of the Royal Naval College, and the Lieutenant-governor. They are required to be acquainted with the English language, so as to write it grammatically, and from dictation; to read and translate the French language; to be well acquainted in the first six books of Euclid, the eleventh, and algebra, as far as quadratic equations. A printed paper is placed before each candidate, with a number of geometrical and algebraical problems, which he works out on paper, and the successful candidates are those who have displayed the greatest talent in the examination. They remain in the establishment seven years, during which time they go through a course of mathematics. The chief portion of their time is, however, occupied in laying off ships in their practical construction, and in making the drawings which are necessary for the execution of the work in the progress of building; an officer is particularly appointed to this important part of their duty. They are annually examined before the Commissioners of the yard, the Governor of the Royal Naval College and School of Naval Architecture, the first Lord of the Admiralty, the Admiral of the Port, and the Lieutenant-governor of the Royal Naval College. These examinations are very severe, and, after finishing their course of study, they are removed to the different dock-yards to fill the situations of subordinate officers,

to be promoted to the higher officers, and, eventually, to that of surveyor of the navy.

The School of Naval Architecture consists of a simple yet elegant elevation of two stories, from the designs of Edward Hall, Esq. It was commenced in 1815, and finished in 1817. On the ground-floor, are the elegant apartments of the superintendent, the rooms for study, and a spacious dining hall; at the farther extremity are the private apartments of the professors and students, with the lecture-room. On the upper floor, the model-room; infirmary, housekeeper's apartments, and a long range of sleeping-rooms, separated by a gallery. Below are spacious vaults, kitchens, &c. The stone staircases are of noble proportions, and the porticoes at each end of the edifice are much admired. The length of the building is 176 feet, breadth 45, height 36, and the whole interior is warmed by heated air, distributed through pipes. In one of the apartments are kept the various models of ships built by the students, under the superintendence of the officers and professors, and a great variety of other models are also here for exemplifying the construction of ships in the lectures delivered to the students. By an order in Council, January 30, 1816, this, with the Naval College, are combined into one establishment. The superior shipwrights are lodged, boarded, and educated, free of expense, and have the following allowances per annum:—First year, 25*l.*; second year, 30*l.*; increasing yearly till the seventh, when the allowance is 60*l.* The superintendent is a professional ship-builder, brought up in one of his Majesty's yards, and his duty is to instruct the apprentices in the practical part of ship-building, &c. His situation is at present filled by our esteemed friend John Fincham, Esq. The apprentices, after their term of seven years is expired, become naval architects.

Previous to the erection of the original, or, as it was called, the Old Commissioner's House, the principal officers of the dock resided in Portsmouth. The first house for the Commissioner was commenced in the year 1664, and completed in 1666; it was situated on the north side of the old rope-house, and was that in which George the Third resided in 1773. This house not being large or

convenient, a new and elegant mansion was erected, between 1782-86, on the site of the old chapel, at an expense of 20,000*l.*—the original estimate being 12,000*l.* It consists of a noble centre, with a handsome portico and two wings, the left or northernmost is appropriated to official offices; the private apartments are elegant and well-disposed. The front is separated from the yard by a range of iron-railing, with an approach for carriages, planted with shrubs and poplars. Before this roadway is a large square lawn, and in the rear of the house are extensive grounds and gardens, well planted and extending to the dock-wall. In this mansion the Emperor Alexander of Russia dwelt during the Royal and Imperial Visit in 1814.

At a short distance, on the right, is a large and handsome guard-house, built in 1796, with a suite of apartments for the officer, and accommodation for a numerous body of soldiers; and near this stands the Pay-office, containing every convenience—the cash and record rooms being built of fire-proof materials, from a design of Sir Samuel Bentham. Round the building extends a spacious piazza, for the accommodation of those who cannot immediately be admitted into the upper apartments.

Surveyors of the Navy, of this Dock Yard, from the reign of Charles the Second to the Eighth of George the Fourth.

Sir William Batten, July, 1660.
Thomas Middleton, Esq.
Sir John Tippets,
Edmund Dumner, Esq.
Daniel Fuger, Esq.
William Lee, Esq.
Sir Jacob Ackworth,
Sir Joseph Allen,
Sir Thomas Slade,
William Bateley, Esq.
John Williams, Esq.
Edward Hunt, Esq.
Sir John Henslow,
Sir William Rule,
Joseph Tucker, Esq.
Sir Henry Peake,
Sir Robert Seppings.

Dock Establishment.—During the War, there were employed in this yard, one thousand five hundred shipwrights; five hundred joiners and carpenters; two hundred smiths; two hundred and fifty sawyers; two hundred riggers, &c.; seven hundred scavelmen and labourers; three hundred and fifty rope-makers;

and the expense for salaries &c. was 60,000*l.* per annum. In 1821, the grants for salaries and contingencies were 49,183*l.* 8s. 9d.; and for the Naval College, &c. 6926*l.* 10s. 3d. This does not include the expenses for materials, &c. The number of men employed is now about three thousand, besides the various officers, clerks, &c.

Mr. Bradley, formerly of the late Royal Academy in the dock yard, has an Observatory, furnished with excellent instruments, for determining the mean time to great exactness, at No. 3, Havant-street, where he receives chronometers for the purpose of ascertaining their rates of going—a great accommodation to those officers whose ships are refitting, or retained at the port by contrary winds.

The Gun-wharf extends over a space of fourteen acres, along the northern edge of the haven, but is very irregular in its shape. The old Gun-wharf was begun in 1662. The contractor for its construction was named William Shakespeare, and the immense excavations between Hanover and Union-streets, behind several parts of the old Rope Walk, extending even to Queen-street, were formed by the removal of the soil (by permission of the Corporation) for the purpose of raising the shores of the harbour to a certain level, much of the land being gained from the sea. The Shakespeare's Head, in Bishop-street, was so called from the workmen being paid there. The Storekeeper's old office, and two or three adjoining stores, were built in 1669, as appears from a date on the interior of one of the window-frames. The officers' houses, in front of which are several rows of lofty trees, and a pleasant green, enclosed by rails, &c. were erected in 1719. The centre house was formerly occupied by the officers of the Royal Artillery, and still retains its original title of "The Barracks." Behind these houses are large gardens, well stocked with fruit-trees, extending to the boundary wall at the Hard. Under the Duke of Richmond, Master-General of the Ordnance, the establishment was much enlarged and improved. The new Armoury, which presents itself immediately on entering the gates (after passing the Mill Redoubt of the

Garrison), was built by his direction, in 1797, for the reception of 21,000 staud of arms. It is a handsome building of white brick and stone, covered with copper. He also directed the formation of the carriage storehouses on the green in the same year. The long sea-stores, for containing the various implements for shipping, were formed at the commencement of the establishment. In front of these is a large and noble building, which in the war was appropriated to the reception of the battering-train; but, on the transfer of the Commissariat department to the Ordnance, was appropriated for camp equipage, &c. and is now called the Commissariat Store. The whole of these buildings, together with a variety of carpenters' and smiths' shops, and an extensive wharf, constitute the old Gun-wharf, the entrance-gates of which form one of the boundary marks of the town of Portsea. These were rebuilt in 1807, previous to which time the entrance was through two archways on each side of a pair of large gates, on the piers of which were placed drums, and over each archway the Ordnance Arms: they were not so lofty as the present. The new Gun-wharf is united to the original establishment by a revolving bridge thrown across a canal or lake, which carries the water from the mill-dam, and through which vessels pass to take in stores, and also to deliver wheat to the King's mill: and it is curious that this bridge, which is readily moved at the time of high-water, is turned with great difficulty when the canal is empty, or the water low. The new Gun-wharf was commenced in 1797, acting on the suggestions of General Bentham, "for the improvement and enlargement of the Ordnance Wharf, in concert with the officers of the Ordnance department at this place; and so as to combine that extension with the general outline of embankment suitable to the improvement of this port:" and again, "the providing additional storehouse room for the use of the Victualling department, in a manner far more economical, as well as convenient, than that already ordered to be obtained, by bearing the expense of the erection of a new storehouse for the use of the Ordnance department." The land was raised above its former level by the

soil from the excavation of the new South Dock in the Naval Arsenal. The work was finished in 1814.

On Thursday, November 28, 1811, the foundation-stone of an intended large storehouse, to be erected on the New Gun Wharf, at this place, was laid by his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence. His Royal Highness arrived at the gates soon after twelve o'clock, where he was received by Lieutenant-general Whetham, our Lieutenant-governor, the principal officers of the garrison, and a guard of honour. His Royal Highness proceeded to the bottom of the foundation, attended by Major-general Eveleigh, the Commanding Royal Engineer, when a bed was prepared, to which his Royal Highness put the finishing stroke, and a fine block of Portland-stone was lowered down, upon which was an appropriate inscription; and in the centre was fixed a brass box, in which was deposited the coins of the realm. On the ceremony being concluded, the spectators gave three cheers, and the band in attendance played "God save the King." The scene was highly gratifying to a large number of respectable inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood, who were present on the occasion. His Royal Highness was attended by several ladies and persons of distinction, besides the officers mentioned, among whom we observed Lady Wood, Lord Keith, Sir James Gardner, &c.

This magnificent building, which is of red brick and stone, presents a massive front towards the town, and three sides of a square towards the sea: having in its centre, a noble archway, surmounted by a lofty tower and cupola, containing an excellent clock. It contains the battering-train, gun-carriages, and every description of ordnance-store, ready at a moment's notice.

On the same wharf is a second fine erection, called the small Sea Armoury; and near it a Magazine, furnished with several conductors, built between 1811 and 1814. With the exception of Haslar, it would probably be difficult to find a nobler group of building in Hampshire. Seen from about the centre of Lombard-street, Portsmouth, the summits of the buildings, the massive stone cornices, tower, &c. form a fine subject for the painter. Near the edge of the Camber (much of which was taken in for the wharfs), are several other noble stores, built

by the Ordnance, but given up to the Victualling department. On one of these the tower and clock was originally placed; and at the period of the building, the Camber was deepened, and the mud removed by an invention of a series of revolving buckets, moved by a steam-engine, on the suggestion of General Bentham.

In the Gun-wharf are deposited (on the wharfs) the cannon of the ships of war, new and old; and between the various stores, pyramidal piles of shot of all dimensions; mortars of gigantic size; and all the various implements of war. There are also working armouries, smiths' shops, a small guard-house, &c. The boundary-wall extends from a short distance behind King George's gate, along the Portsea road to the King's-mill. It was built in 1803, and in it are two fine gates; on the piers of one of which are two stone mortars. Before the erection of this wall, this enclosure was by palisades, and a low stone wall of great thickness, bounding the sea, through which was the sluice for filling the moats of Portsmouth with water; it is now enclosed by a door in the wall.

During the mutiny at Spithead there was a strong battery made on the wharfs to protect the mouth of the harbour, and the gates were defended by immense mortars: happily no circumstance arose to call these dreadful engines into activity.

The entrance to the Gun-wharf is at the gate in Portsea, and the appearance on first entering past the porter's lodge, is very picturesque; the long line of trees presenting a beautiful appearance. The civil establishment consists of a Storekeeper, Deputy-storekeeper, a number of gentlemen as clerks, and about 150 men.

Expenses of cartage of soil to the New Gun-wharf in 1800, with extra allowance for ditto, 1672*l.* 13s. 6d. 51,694½ cube yards being removed.

Part of the boundaries of the Parish of Portsmouth passes through the old Gun-wharf; one of the lodges being in Portsmouth and the other in Portsea.

VISITS OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE LORD HIGH ADMIRAL.

Monday, July 30, 1827, at 5-50 p. m. his Royal Highness the Lord High Admiral was announced to be just entering the Needles. At seven p. m. the Royal yacht, being off Cowes, was received by the yachts of the Royal Club, who saluted the flag in good style. At half-past eight p. m. she came within the limits of Spithead, under a heavy press of sail, and anchored; when the ships of war manned yards and fired a salute, and the naval and military officers of the garrison went on board to pay their respects to his Royal Highness. On Tuesday, his Royal Highness inspected the ships at Spithead, and the Royal yacht was then taken in tow by the Lightning steamer, and brought into Harbour in a beautiful manner, amidst the cheers of thousands of the most respectable people assembled on the lines and beach, and the thundering of the cannon on the battlements, the ships at Spithead, and in the Harbour. As soon as the Royal yacht came to an anchor, his Royal Highness proceeded to inspect his Majesty's ships in commission in the Harbour; and at half-past seven he landed at the Dock-yard, under a salute from the shipping and the garrison, and went direct to the Admiralty-house. A very brilliant star, twelve feet in diameter, composed of variegated lamps, was this evening displayed on the mast of the Semaphore. His Royal Highness embarked at half-past eleven, under a salute from the battlements, to sleep: which he did every night during his visit. On Wednesday his Royal Highness inspected the various establishments in the Dock-yard. On Thursday, at ten o'clock, the Mayor, Daniel Howard, Esq. and the Corporate body, in procession, attended by a train of peace-officers, embarked in four barges, and proceeded to the Royal Sovereign yacht, to present their congratulatory address to his Royal Highness on the appointment to his high office, by whom

they were received with the most gentlemanly urbanity. On this evening, one of the most splendid, costly, and superb banquets ever witnessed in this, and rarely surpassed in any other town, was given to his Royal Highness by Daniel Howard, Esq. and the Corporate body. His Royal Highness landed under salutes from the shipping and the garrison at five minutes after seven, and proceeded in company with the naval and military officers to the banquet prepared at the Green-row assembly-rooms. A salute of twenty-one guns from the immense cannon on the King's bastion, announced the period when his Majesty's health was drunk, which was repeated on the toast of his Royal Highness's health, and likewise on his leaving the shore at eleven o'clock. The effect produced by the discharge of these noble cannon at this dead hour of the night, was magnificent beyond description. On Friday his Royal Highness partook of a dejeuné at the Royal Marine mess-room, having previously reviewed that highly distinguished and honourable corps on Southsea Common; and on Saturday at one o'clock breakfasted with the officers of the Royal Marine Artillery. On Sunday his Royal Highness and the Duchess, who arrived on the previous day, passing through ranks of soldiers from the George inn to the Sallyport, went on board the Victory, to attend Divine Service; after which, the Duchess remained on board, whilst his Royal Highness held a levee at the Admiralty-house, which he commenced at two o'clock; and in the space of six hours saw 300 naval officers. On Monday his Royal Highness dined with the admirals, captains, and commanders of the navy at the Green-row rooms; and in the evening, with the Duchess, attended a splendid ball at the Promenade-rooms. On Tuesday, his Royal Highness inspected the Royal Marine Artillery at mortar-practice at Cumberland Fort; and on Wednesday presented a pair of colours to the 50th regiment on Southsea Common, where the troops of the garrison had been assembled to witness the interesting ceremony. On Thursday, his Royal Highness sailed round a Russian fleet of twenty sail of the line, which this week had anchored at Spithead; received the Russian Admiral to breakfast, and returned the visit by going on board the Admiral's ship (the Azoff); and

then, under a salute from all the Russian and English ships, stood away for Deptford.

His Royal Highness made a second official visit to this port on the 26th of October, 1827. He arrived at the Admiralty-house at half-past six on Friday evening; and on the following day, under salutes as before, went off to Spithead to inspect the Galatea and Experimental squadron. He expressed himself particularly pleased with the appearance of the Columbine as he sailed around her; then landed at the Promenade-rooms at half-past twelve o'clock, and proceeded immediately to the Common, where the Royal Marine Corps, the Royal Marine Artillery, the 51st and 60th regiments, were drawn up; and, after having carefully inspected the whole line, front and rear, the Royal Marines formed a square, which was surrounded by the other troops, and his Royal Highness entered the centre, and presented this distinguished corps with a superb pair of colours, in a speech of one hour and a half's length; in which he discussed their merits, and enumerated, with peculiar warmth and animation, their many eminent services "both by sea and land," from the earliest period since the formation of the corps. His Royal Highness then left the ground amidst the warmest acclamations. On Sunday, his Royal Highness, notwithstanding it was raining hard and blowing a stiff breeze, again went to Spithead; after which, he left this for his residence at Bushy. The Marine Barracks on Saturday evening were brilliantly illuminated.

Another official visit was made by his Royal Highness on the 2d of February, 1828, to inspect the Asia, Albion, and Rose, just returned from Navarino. His Royal Highness went off under a salute from the cannon on the battlements, and small arms round the lines, and from the ships in the Harbour and Spithead. At this moment one of those tremendous cannon on the King's bastion accidentally went off during the act of reloading; by which, a fine young artillery-man at the cannon's mouth was killed almost instantly, both his arms being torn away, and otherwise dreadfully mangled; while a second was severely wounded, his left hand torn off, which rendered immediate amputation above the elbow necessary, and his breast much lacerated; he has, however, done well.

NATURAL HISTORY OF THE ISLAND OF PORTSEA.

The Beach.—Here the freshness of the ocean-breeze may be inhaled in all its purity, whether it floats calmly over the scarcely undulating surface, or bears along in its boisterous course the rolling billow which is dashed into foam upon the resounding shore. Here the admirers of those beautiful productions of sportive nature—shells, will reap an abundant harvest, by a careful investigation of the beach and sands, particularly after gales of wind have torn them from their native recesses. Fifty species of the following sorts may be found between Cumberland Fort and Southsea Castle, and on the extensive sands of Stokes Bay on the Gosport side: Chiton (coat of mail), Lepas (barnacle), Pholas (piercer), abundantly in decayed wood near Lump's fort; where is also the Teredo navalis (noted for its destructive ravages in shipping) to be found in a living state. Mya (gaper); Solen (razor-shell); Cardium (cockle); Mactra; Venus; Ostrea (oyster and scallop); Anomia; Mytilus (muscle), of which a foreign species, M. bidens, was found naturalized in Portsmouth harbour. Buccinum (whelk); Murex (rock-shell); Trochus (top-shell); Turbo (perriwinkle); Helix (snail), about fifteen species in various parts of the island. Nerita; Patella (limpet); Serpula (worm-shell); and Sabella (tube-shell), of this latter there is a curious species on the Stubington shore, west of Stokes Bay, which forms its aggregated tube entirely of a small fossil nummulite, presenting a remarkable squamose appearance. On this shore may be gathered some shells of less common occurrence, as the Mytilus modiolus; Murex antiquus; Mya inequivalvis, and Cardium exiguum. The blue clay at low water is full of superb specimens of Pholas dactylus, and abounds with the fossils of that formation; amongst which the noble bivalve Venerecardia planicosta is eminently conspicuous. Close to Southsea Castle are

found vast quantities of the microscopic shells, peculiar for containing recent species of Nautilus; they appear as a white scum, which being carefully collected, dried, and passed under the microscope, the shells become apparent. Several varieties of Algæ and Fuci (or sea-weed) and corallines are upborne from ocean's bed and deposited on the beach; whilst, amongst other objects of curiosity occasionally met with, are the Asterias, or star-fish, of various sizes and number of radii; the sea-mouse (Aphrodita) with its brilliant iridiscent tufts of hair; the sea nettle (Medusa), some of which of an enormous size have been lately taken; the sea anemone (Alcyonium) expanding its corolla-shaped tentaculæ in the small pools left by the retiring tide; the Sepia, or cuttle-fish, and more frequently its internal muscular support, termed the bone, with the spawn of the same animal, resembling bunches of black grapes; the ovæ of the thornback and dog-fish, enclosed in their brown leather-like cases: whilst that singular animal, the hermit-crab, to which Nature has denied the crustaceous covering of the species, but endowed it with the instinct of providing itself a habitation, may be seen parading in the adopted shell of a whelk, and with a variety of minute species, enlivening the sands by their grotesque motions.

The beach is in the winter the resort of numerous flocks of oxbirds, (Tringa cinclus). The regularity with which these birds perform their evolutions in flight, as if by word of command, presents an amusing spectacle. Vast numbers of widgeon, wild-duck, teal, curlew, plover, and other aquatic birds, reward the sportsman whose ardour in the pursuit will tempt him to brave the inclemency of a winter's night, to follow them to their haunts in Langston-harbour. Some curious water-fowl have also been shot in this vicinity; as the Solan goose (Pelecanus bassanus), great Northern diver (Colymbus glacialis), and a variety of grebes.

In the sands near Cumberland Fort, are found in great plenty the sand eel, or launce, (Ammodytes tobianus.) This little fish, of peculiar habits, as the tide retires retreats into the sand; and when it is left dry, they may be dug out, being only a few inches below the surface. They are excellent eating, but the trouble of obtaining

them prevents their being taken for sale. Lurking under large loose stones is found the Blennius gunnelus, provincially called Nine Eyes, from the ocellate spots on the dorsal fin; whilst the adjacent waters produce, besides a great variety of excellent fish for the table, several curious species, as the Lophius piscatorius, frog-fish; Squalus squàtina, angel-shark; Cyclopterus lumpus, lump-fish; Sygnathus barbarus, pipe-fish, and others, specimens of which are preserved in the museum of the Philosophical Society.

If a stroll on the beach can delight the admirer of Nature's wondrous works, he will find an equal fund of amusement in the Island itself. Allured by its fertility and the mildness of the climate, here resort all the summer birds of passage, delighting the eye by their painted plumage, and the ear by their varied melody; whilst a summer's evening walk in the rural village of Milton is rendered harmonious by the plaintive song of the nightingale. These, in their turn, give place to the winter birds, as the fieldfare, redwing, and numerous others. Vast flocks of larks annually pass over the Island in clouds, performing a partial migration from East to West. Occasionally some of the rarer birds visit this vicinity: as the snow-bunting (Emberiza nivalis); tawney-bunting (Emberiza mustelina); mountain-finch (Fringilla montifringilla);—and the cross-bill (Loxia curvirostra); little-egret (Ardea garzetta); lesser rail (Rallus porzana); and avocet (recurvirostra Avocetta), have also been shot in the neighbourhood.

Along the sandy borders of the beach grow the sea-eryngo (Eryngium maritimum); yellow-poppy (Chelidonium glaucium); and Convolvulus soldanella. But space will not admit an enumeration of the variety presented in the interior, where the general richness of the soil encourages the growth of a multitude of indigenous plants in great perfection; and where the Botanist will find the long summer's day fully occupied in examining the treasures of the vegetable kingdom so profusely spread around him. Attracted by the flowery sweets, myriads of gaudy butterflies, "Nature's gems," flutter in all directions; and when the "evening shades prevail," the hawk-moths (sphinges) wheel in rapid flight. That most beau-

tiful insect the death's-head moth (Sphinx atropos) is frequently met with. A very local butterfly (the Papilio cratæga) is in some seasons common; the scarce water-beetle (Nepa linearis) has also been taken; and a very great variety of the most brilliant British insects may be procured by the diligent observer, as more than two hundred species have been collected in a single summer.

Although so prolific in the productions of the animal and vegetable kingdoms, the Island of Portsea does not, from its locality, present so many attractions to the mineralogist or geologist. Fossil organic remains, or petrifactions, are not so numerous as from its situation in the Isle of Wight basin of the London clay might be anticipated. The blue clay analogous to that through which the Thames Tunnel is now forming, may be conveniently examined at Stubington, as before mentioned, and the suite of fossils of that formation collected. The chalk of Portsdown-hill presented, when extensively cut through in 1824 to lower the road, only a few echini and terebratulæ; these, with an occasional siliceous cast of an echinus, to be found on the beach, are the principal fossil productions. But to name more particularly or individually the varied productions, would of itself constitute a volume:—in short, here we might say is collected together a sample of all that is lovely in animated nature of which the British Islands can boast.

For the above description of the Natural History of this Island, we are indebted to our esteemed and valued friend, Lieut. J. H. Davies, R. M. the Curator of the Museum of the Portsmouth Institution.

REGAL AND PARLIAMENTARY DOCUMENTS.

A.D. 1201. "John, by the grace of God, king of England, lord of Ireland, duke of Normandy, and earl of Angers, to the archbishops, bishops, abbots, earls, barons, justices, sheriffs, bailiffs, ministers, and all the faithful subjects of his whole territory, greeting. Know that we retain in our possession our burgh of Portesmues, with all things appertaining to it; and in it we establish, and grant, and concede a fair to endure once in a year for fifteen days, to wit, from the feast of St. Peter ad Vincula. Moreover, we ordain that all our subjects of England, Normandy, Angers, Scotland, Wales, Pictania, and of all our territories, may come to the aforesaid fair, and pass and repass both in safety and peace, and enjoy all the privileges and free customs which they have at the fairs of Winton, or Hoiland, or elsewhere in our dominion. Moreover, we grant that our burgesses in the said burgh shall have in every week of the year one seventh day (to wit, Thursday) for a market, with all the liberties and free customs which our citizens of Winton, or Oxford, or others in our territory, have or ought to have. Moreover, we grant that the aforesaid town of Portesmues, and all our burgesses holding in and of it, may be free and exempt from toll, and from bridge-toll, and gate-toll, and horse-toll, and market-tolls, and all kinds of exactions, and from county courts, and from suit and service at shire courts and hundred courts, and from summonses and sheriff's juries, and from sessions of the peace and assizes, and from all plaints; also from fines for blood and mulcts, and from the Wapentake court, and from forest writ, and from guard and rangership of forests, and from all other secular exactions, as well by sea as by land, wheresoever they shall come in all our territory. Wherefore we will and strictly ordain that the aforesaid town of Portesmue, and our burgesses in it holding houses and possessions, shall

have and hold them with tolls for the market, and bondmen, and power to try and judge thieves taken within the jurisdiction of the borough, and to bring back thieves who are fled, bring them back and try and judge them, and with all the liberties and free customs again well and in peace, freedom, and quiet, as our citizens of Winton, or Oxford, or others in our territory have and hold their possessions with greater freedom, liberty, and quiet; and we prohibit that they be impleaded concerning any tenure of the said town, except before us, [and our Lord Chief Justice,] and we prohibit that any one disturb them in any matter, on pain of our exchequer [as the charter of King Richard, our brother, truly testifies, except this which is added in a clause where it is said in the charter of King Richard they shall not be impleaded concerning any tenure of the said town except before us, there we add—or our Lord Chief Justice.] T. Gaufrid Fitz-Peter, earl of Essex, W. Brew, Robert de Gurneham, Hugo de Neuill. Given under the hand of Simon, archdeacon of Wells, near Melkesham, on the 25th day of October, in the second year of our reign. J. R."

1194. By the substitution of the name Richard instead of John, and the omission of the words which in the above translation we have included in brackets, the reader will obtain a translation of the charter of King Richard the First granted to the borough, to which these are the witnesses: "William, priest of the church of St. Mary, Master Ph'us, Gaufrid Fitz-Petre, Robert Fitz-Roger, Gaufrid de Say, William de Stagno. Given under the hand of William Longchamp, bishop of Ely, our chancellor, near Portsmouth, on the 2nd day of May, in the fifth year of our reign. R. R."

From the first signature attached to this deed being a priest of the church of St. Mary, and the words "apud Portesmui," we think it more than probable that this charter was executed at Southwick, or Porchester, the churches of which were dedicated to the Holy Virgin, while the Augustine Priory was one of the largest conventual buildings in this part of the kingdom.

1230. "Henry, by the grace of God, king of England, &c. &c. [the titles and the list of nobility, &c. follow in

the same words as above under the charter of King John.] Know, that we concede, and by this our charter confirm to our men of Portismut [here follow the precise words used in the charters of Richard I. and John]—as the charter of King Richard, our uncle, most truly testifies. These being witnesses, Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, our chief justiciary, Stephen de Seg'ne, Rudolph de Trublenill, Peter Fitzherbert, Gilbert Basset, Godfrey de Crancumb, John Fitz-Philip, Richard Fitz-Hugo, Henry de Chapel, and others. Given under the hand of Richard, bishop of Chichester, our chancellor, near Wudestok, on the 18th day of November, in the fourteenth year of our reign. H. R."

1255. "Henry, &c. [in the same words as before.] Know, that we will and concede for ourselves and our successors that all the liberties contained and expressed in the charters of our Lord King Richard our uncle, of King John our father, and in our own, which our burgesses of Portesmuth enjoy, both as concerning tallages as of other distinct articles, shall be truly held and firmly observed, as the same burgesses hitherto by universal custom are free from the aforesaid things. In testimony of which, these our letters to the said burgesses we have caused to be made patent. Before us at M. ton, on the 5th day of April, in the thirty-ninth year of our reign. H. R."

1256. "Henry, &c. [in the same words as before.] Know, that we grant, and by this our charter confirm to our honest men of Portesmuth, that they and their heirs for ever shall have a guild of merchants in the aforesaid town of Portesmuth, with all the liberties appertaining to this kind of guild, and that they themselves and their successors for ever, through all our territory and our dominion, shall have this free custom, to wit, that they or their goods, in whatsoever place in our territory found, shall not be arrested for any debt, for which the sureties or principal debtors shall not [ ] unless the debtors perchance are of themselves rich, and having the power from whence they or he may be able to make satisfaction for their debts, either in the whole or in part; and the said men, the creditors, shall absent themselves from justice [.] More-

over, we grant to the said men that for ever they may be free from tolls for passage through our forests as hitherto they have been accustomed to be free; and that they may have among themselves jurisdiction over the inlets of the waters of the sea, and over cultivated and pasture lands, and in all other things, all the laws, and just customs, and privileges, and franchises which they had in the time of Lord King Richard our uncle, and of Lord King John our father, and others our predecessors in this our kingdom of England. Wherefore we will and strictly ordain for ourselves and for our successors, that the aforesaid men of Portesmuth, and their successors for ever, may have the aforesaid guild of merchants, and that they may enjoy for ever all the free customs before recited and aforesaid; and we forbid, on pain of forfeiture of ten pounds to our exchequer, that no one presume to disturb or vex them in any matter respecting or contrary to their liberties. These being the witnesses: the venerable fathers W. of Ely and William of Worcester, bishops; Guidon de Lesimaco, Galfrid de Lesimaco, and William de Valence, our brothers; John Maunsell, treasurer of York, William de Clare, Henry de Bracton, Nicholas de Turri, Walkelin de Arder, William de St. Ermino, Bartholomew Bigot, and others. Given under our hand, near Clarendon, on the 4th day of July, in the fortieth year of our reign. H. R."

1313. "Edward II. &c. [in the precise words as before.] We truly concede and confirm all the aforesaid gifts, concessions, and confirmations, rates, letters patent, and grants, for ourselves and our successors, as much as in us lies, to the aforesaid burgesses and their heirs and successors, burgesses of the aforesaid town, as the charters and letters patent before recited verily testify. These being witnesses, William, bishop of Worcester, Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester and Hereford, Hugo Bellemonte, Edward Badlake, seneschal of our hospital, and others. Given under our hand at Wyndsore, on the 12th day of February, in the sixth year of our reign. E. R."

1359. "Edward III. &c. [This charter is in the same words exactly as the last. We subjoin the witnesses:]—the venerable men Stephen archbishop of Canterbury,

primate of all England, William bishop of Winchester, our high chancellor, John bishop of Rochester, our high treasurer, Richard Arundel, Thomas Bellechamp, earl of Warwick, Robert earl of Suffolk, Walter de Manny, Guidon de Brian, John de Grey de Retherfield, seneschal of our hospital, and others. Given under our hand at Westminster, on the 13th day of October, in the thirty-second year of our reign over England, and in the year of our true reign over France the nineteenth. E. R."

1385. "Richard II. [and the usual titles, but omitting the address to the ecclesiastics and nobility, repeats the words in the same order as in the charter of Edward II. till near the end:]—and as the burgesses and their ancestors have been accustomed to have and enjoy from the time of the signing of charters and letters patent as before recited. In testimony of which we have caused these our letters to be made patent. Before us, at Westminster, on the 12th of October, in the eighth year of our reign. R. R."

1463. "Edward IV. [This charter is in the same words as the last, the greeting to the bishops and nobility being however introduced,]—at Westminster, the 7th of February, in the second year of our reign."

1484. "Richard III. [This charter confirms the preceding ones, using the same language, except this sentence:]—with the consent of the two estates, temporal and spiritual, and the council of our kingdom of England in parliament assembled at Westminster. Before us, at Westminster, the 15th day of June, in the first year of our reign. R. R."

The charters of Elizabeth, Charles the First, and Charles the Second, have been described in the body of this work; and though the antiquary may blame us for rendering in the vulgar tongue the ancient, quaint, and lofty tone of the original documents, still the abbreviations (unless printed in the type used for the national records) appear so barbarous that we have ventured (not having the fear of Silvanus Urban before our eyes) to put a modern aspect on them, carefully retaining, however, as near as possible, the original signification of each word.

1814, Oct. 24. The commission for executing "An Act of Parliament for purchasing certain premises and land in Pesthouse Field and at Hilsea for extending the works and lines, and for erecting other works and buildings near Portsmouth," was opened, attended by Sir Hildebrand Oakes, lieutenant-general of the ordnance, Admiral Moorsom, surveyor-general, the secretaries, clerks, and surveyors, the admiral, the commandant of artillery, and the principal officers of the Gun-wharf, Sir W. Garrow, the attorney-general. On Tuesday, after viewing the lands, the commissioners sat in the sessions room, and the grand jury of Hampshire being summoned and in attendance, the causes were commenced. The whole number of claimants under the act were ninety-eight. Eighty-two of them agreed to accept the compensation offered by private treaty, twelve were settled in court, and four were publicly advocated by counsel. The following were the awards made and sanctioned by the grand jury:

Mr. Padwick, jun., 10,025*l.*; Mr. Padwick, sen., 4500*l.*; Mr. and Mrs. Burrell, 20,537*l.*; Mr. Rood, 3000*l.*; devisee of Sir John Carter for Hilsea, 20,000*l.*; for Pesthouse, 13,000*l.*; Mr. Hellyer for Pesthouse and Hilsea, 4500*l.*; Mr. Atfield for Pesthouse, 3353*l.*; trustee for Antrim and Craswell, Hilsea, 6500*l.*; devisees of Mr. Brain, Pesthouse, 16,000*l.*; Mr. Chase for the King's Head, Hilsea, 3800*l.*; Dock-mill society, 10,000*l.*; Mr. Fitzherbert for Pesthouse, 6000*l.*; Mr. Friend for Hilsea, 1700*l.*; Messrs. Garrett for two public houses, 3700*l.*; Mr. Goldfinch, Hilsea, 2100*l.*; Mr. W. Hopkins, Hilsea, 4250*l.*; Mr. S. Hopkins, Hilsea, 1200*l.*; Mr. Joseph Lath, Pesthouse, 1000*l.*; Mr. Hebbard, Hilsea, 1800*l.*; Sir R. Curtis, for mansion and land, Hilsea, 24,000*l.*; Mr. J. Morey, Hilsea, 1200*l.*; Lord Powerscourt, Pesthouse, 3224*l.*; Mr. Pittis, 4263*l.*; Mr. W. Pearce, Pesthouse, 6000*l.*; Mr. Smith, Hilsea, 1500*l.*; S. Spicer, Esq. for the "Battle of Minden," 2000*l.*; Mr. Tolfree, Pesthouse, 1900*l.*: T. Thistlewhayte, Esq. Hilsea, 5000*l.*; devisees of Walker, 1250*l.*: Mr. Gravener, for a boat-house, 2100*l.*; Mr. J. Knight, Hilsea, 2400*l.*; Mr. J. Green, Hilsea, 3000*l.*; Fareham charity for land at Priddy's Hard, 787*l.* (This land is partially surrendered to the Victualling depart-

ment.) The Court sat four days. The whole amount awarded is about 220,000*l.*, which is 100,000*l.* less than the *claims* of the proprietors amounted to. Ninety thousand pounds were voted for this service in the last session of Parliament.

The line of fortification contemplated by the above act of Parliament may be in progress for a number of years. It was intended that the convicts in the hulks here should do the laborious work.

The necessity of the measure, we are informed, if it be admitted that fortifications are necessary at all, is obvious; for so rapidly has the number of buildings increased (through the increase of inhabitants) around, that there is only a part (and that very small) throughout the extent of the line of fortifications that is not masked. How it was in former years the following facts will show:

In the early part of the reign of Queen Anne, in consequence of the great population of Portsmouth, arising from the increased importance of the navy, and the establishments connected with it, the shipwrights and artificers of the dock-yard *began* to build in the common field, then called West Dock Field. General Gibson, lieutenant-governor of Portsmouth, conceiving with the eye of a soldier that buildings so close to the town would considerably *mask* and otherwise interfere with the fortifications, sent an order to the persons who were building, commanding them to desist, accompanied with a threat that, if they proceeded, he would point the guns of the garrison, and beat the houses down. Soon after this the Queen, with Prince George of Denmark, visited Portsmouth, and while at the Commissioner's house, the shipwrights sent a deputation, with a memorial, to the Queen on the subject. Her Majesty was in some measure disposed to leave the matter to the direction of the Governor, but the Prince interfering with good humour in behalf of the memorialists, the Governor was sent for, the matter soon arranged, and the builders met with no farther interruption; the houses, accordingly, from this time, went on rapidly, and, in gratitude to the Prince, the first street was named "Prince George's-street." Queen-street followed, and in a century and a half the immense town and suburbs of Portsea have been produced.

The lands purchased under the act above recited extend across the island from sea to sea on either side of the canal at Portsbridge. The boundaries are marked by small square stones, bearing the initials "G. R." many of which are seen in passing round the island. The boundary pillar of the borough is near the fourth mile-stone on the London road, and on one side of these lands. It was formerly "a Green Post," from which the neighbouring tavern takes its name, but is at present a handsome stone pedestal, enclosed by iron rails; on one side appears the Corporation crest, and below, "Burgi de Portesmouth Limitatum Limes: Anno 1799. Rev. G. Cuthbert, Prætore."

As the proceedings on the occasion of the Election of Representatives to serve in Parliament for this Borough in 1820 were of more than common interest, and may be matter of reference hereafter, we have thought it advisable to collect into one view the more essential and public facts in the order in which they occurred, commencing with the requisition of some of the inhabitants in favour of Sir George Cockburn:

"Sir G. Cockburn, G.C.B.

"We, the undersigned, inhabitant householders of the borough of Portesmouth, impressed with a high sense of the meritorious services of Sir George Cockburn, G.C.B. as well as the great attention shown by him, on all occasions, to the local interests of the said borough, during the time he has been one of its representatives, take this present opportunity of expressing our approbation of his parliamentary conduct, and our most anxious wishes for his re-election: and we earnestly hope and trust that the members of the Corporation will, at the approaching election, meet the wishes of the inhabitants by supporting, with their votes and interest, his return to the ensuing Parliament."—Signed by fourteen hundred householders. February, 1820.

The signatures to this declaration were in a few days increased to two thousand three hundred.

"On Tuesday, a deputation waited on Sir Samuel Spicer, the Mayor, at the Town Hall, with the address, by way

of protest, against the proceedings adopted by the friends of Admiral Sir George Cockburn, for the purpose of influencing the votes of the Corporate body in their choice of representatives for this borough in Parliament. Dr. Shoveller, of the Academy in Landport Terrace, in a few appropriate words, stated the object of himself and friends, and requested their sentiments might be made known to the body corporate. The Mayor paid the most polite attention to the application, and kindly promised to comply with the request."

"Tuesday, March 7th, 1820.

"To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses.

"SOME of our fellow-townsmen having thought proper to request you to re-elect Sir George Cockburn as your representative in Parliament, we, the undersigned inhabitant householders, consider it a duty to enter our protest against such irregular proceedings: we feel aggrieved that we have no voice in the election of the members for this borough, and wish to obtain that privilege by means of an act of the legislature to extend the elective franchise throughout the kingdom, and to regulate the exercise of it, that the House may, in reality as in name, be the representatives of the people. Until such a general law be passed, we consider that your highly respectable body will best promote our interests, and that of the country at large, by sending to Parliament representatives who will pledge themselves to promote rigid economy in the public expenditure, to oppose every inroad attempted on our liberties, and to use their utmost endeavours to obtain a reform of the errors and corruptions which from lapse of time and other causes have nearly obliterated our once admirable and enviable constitution.—The names already signed are too numerous for insertion."

"Portsmouth, March 7, 1820.

"SIR,—In complying with the request of a great number of the inhabitant householders of this borough, to forward to you the declaration which we have the honour to inclose, signed by nearly 2000 of onr fellow-townsmen, we are desirous, most respectfully and most earnestly, to impress upon your mind, that in fulfilling a duty imposed upon us, it is accompanied by a sincere

wish to abstain from expressing any feeling that could in the most remote degree be unpleasant to you.

"Personally, we beg leave to assure you, that our sentiments towards you are highly respectful. We wish to leave this appeal from so great a majority of the inhabitants of this borough (who, unfortunately for themselves and their welfare, have no voice in its representation) to the effect it is so well calculated to make on a generous mind: and we cordially anticipate the hope it will meet with a favourable reception in your's: recollecting as we do, with much pleasure, the liberal conduct pursued by you, on the late occasion of an election for this borough, and the good effect it produced, by preserving the peace of it, and the advantage to the place which has been consequent thereupon.

"Hoping you will favour us with an early reply, we have the honour to remain, Sir,

"Your most obedient, humble servants,

GEORGE GARRETT.
WILLIAM DEACON.
GEORGE GRANT.

"To Admiral Markham."

"Portsmouth, March 8, 1820.

"GENTLEMEN,—I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of a letter, signed with your names, the purport of which is to request me to withdraw myself as a candidate to represent the borough of Portsmouth in the ensuing Parliament. In answer to so extraordinary a proposition, it is only necessary for me to say, that I cannot for one moment entertain it.

"I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient and very humble servant,
"J. MARKHAM."

"G. Garrett, W. Deacon, Geo. Grant, Esqrs."

On Thursday, March 9, the election took place at the New Sessions-room. The candidates were John Carter, Esq. Vice-Admiral Sir George Cockburn, G.C.B. and Admiral John Markham. The precept of John Scott, Esq. high-sheriff of the county, directing the Mayor (Sir Samuel Spicer, Knt.) to proceed to an election, and to make a return of the members chosen, being read, with the Acts of Parliament against bribery and

corruption, and for the better preserving the purity of election; the candidates were severally put in nomination: John Carter, Esq. by the Hon. Sir George Grey, Bart. seconded by Thomas Sharp, Esq.; Sir George Cockburn, by Sir Henry White, Knt. seconded by J. T. Merritt, Esq.; Admiral Markham, by Edward Carter, Esq. seconded by James White, Esq. A show of hands being made and declared, Admiral Markham demanded a poll.

Mr. Carter then addressed his constituents; as did also Sir George Cockburn and Admiral Markham. Sir George concluded by saying, that it was not so much an object of his ambition to become a member of Parliament (for merely to obtain that honour, he had several opportunities), as it was to be the chosen representative of the first Naval Port in the Kingdom, indeed in the world. Sir John Cox Hippisley, Bart. spoke at considerable length in favour of Sir George Cockburn, and objecting to non-resident electors. In the course of his observations the worthy Baronet commented on what he termed the loyalty of some of the late members of the Corporation; with allusions to the number of alehouses in the place, and the personal influence exercised over them, as to what newspapers and political sentiments should be read and disseminated in them.

John Carter, Esq. conceiving his late respected father particularly aimed at by the last speaker, made a manly and animated reply, and referred to strong facts of a directly contrary description; which drew forth the loudest plaudits of respect for the father, and admiration of the son.

Mr. Callaway argued against the prescriptive right exercised by the Corporation, in the choice of sending members to Parliament. He stated that the charter of Edward I. granted the elective franchise to the Burgesses and "Inhabitants;" and though the charter of Charles I. subsequently granted, gave the right to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses only, it was the imperious duty of the electors to attend to the wishes of the inhabitants on the subject. This opinion had been decidedly expressed in the very numerously signed address to the Corporation. Mr. Callaway very warmly eulogised the professional character of Sir George Cockburn, and

concluded by earnestly commending him to the patronage of the electors.

The poll being taken, the numbers appeared as follows:—for John Carter, Esq. 53; for Admiral John Markham, 37; for Sir George Cockburn, 22; upon which the two former gentlemen were declared elected.—As the electors went to the poll, an objection was taken by Mr. Winkworth, as the professional agent of Sir George Cockburn, to four aldermen and all the burgesses made in the last six years, on the ground that they had not been legally chosen as members of the Corporation. Fourteen inhabitant householders tendered themselves for Sir George in order to try their right; but their votes were refused to be taken and recorded by the returning officer, the Mayor. The election excited considerable sensation in the town, there having been no contest for the representation since 1774, when the ministerial nomination of P. Taylor, Esq. army commissary, was rejected. The Sessions-room was crowded to excess; several persons sustained very serious injury. Among the members of the Corporation whom the event called together, besides Sir John Cox Hippisley, Bart. from Bath, were Stephen Gaselee, Esq. A. Atherley, Esq. T. Bonham, Esq. and the venerable Rev. Henry Taylor, son of the Rev. H. Taylor, many years the respected Vicar of Portsmouth, and author of the celebrated letters of "Ben Mordecai."—Mr. Carter and Mr. Gaselee set off next day to resume their professional services as counsel on the Western Circuit, and Admiral Markham for his seat near Lewes, Sussex. Sir George Cockburn returned to the George inn, from the window of which he addressed the populace; and in the evening visited the theatre, where he was received with tumultuous applause.

"Portsmouth, March 10, 1820.

"THAT the public may be fully in possession of the exertions that have been made by us, in furtherance of the important objects the inhabitant householders of the borough of Portsmouth have in view, as expressed in the declaration signed by upwards of 2300 of our fellow townsmen, we feel it incumbent upon us to state, that we waited upon such of the senior and junior members of

the Corporation as the time would permit, and presented to them this strong appeal, expressing our hope that it would meet their favourable attention. We regret, however, to be obliged to state, that, although it is evidently as much the bounden duty of the Corporation to watch over the welfare and interests of the borough, as it is to protect the constitutional rights and privileges, our endeavours completely failed in producing any beneficial effect, inasmuch as, from the result of yesterday's poll, we have the lamentable proof, that not one vote was in consequence of the so strongly expressed wishes of upwards of 2300 inhabitants given to Sir George Cockburn, nor was a single voter prevented from appearing against him, although letters to many, if not all of the numerous non-resident electors were written by us, expressive of our own and our fellow-townsmen's anxious wishes."

"Portsmouth, March 10, 1820.

"At a meeting of the following gentlemen, inhabitant householders, present—George Garrett, chairman, Moses Greetham, George Augustus Callaway, Edward Casher, Joseph Turner, Elias Bruce Arnaud, John Allen Hickley, William Turner, William Deacon, Thomas Seeds, George Grant, Charles Winkworth, Joseph Dudley, William Lang, John Lindegren, George Lamburn Greetham, William Winkworth, Jun.

"Resolved,—That it appears to this meeting that there is a fair and desirable opportunity of recovering for, and confining the elective franchise to, the inhabitant householders of this borough, which they formerly enjoyed, and that a subscription be entered into for the purpose of defraying the necessary expenses attendant thereon.

"Resolved,—That as prompt and active measures are necessary to be taken, it is deemed expedient that a provisional committee be appointed, and that the following gentlemen do form such committee, namely:—George Garrett, George Grant, William Deacon, William Lang, Thomas Seeds, Moses Greetham, John Lindegren, William Winkworth, Jun., three of whom shall have power to act.

"Resolved,—That Mr. Henry Deacon be requested to act as secretary to the said committee.

"Resolved,—That the names of such gentlemen, as are desirous of affording pecuniary assistance towards carrying the above desirable object into effect be left at the banking-house of Messrs. Grant and Co. who are requested to become treasurers. (Signed,) GEORGE GARRETT."

In May 1820, a petition was presented to Parliament by Sir George Cockburn against the return of Admiral Markham as one of the representatives of this borough.

Thursday, May 25. The House proceeded to ballot for a Committee, to try the merits of a petition against the return for Portsmouth; Lord Clive sat as chairman of the Committee.

Friday, May 26. The Committee commenced their sittings, and continued to meet from day to day. Mr. Harrison, as leading counsel for the petitioner, opened the case. The chief point which he appeared to aim to establish was, that the right of electing corporate officers, and the right of returning members of Parliament, were in distinct persons, namely, that the first was founded on charters, and the other upon prescription; and that the right of voting for members was vested in the burgesses who were resident within the borough. The resolution of the House of Commons, passed in 1695, was referred to, by which it was declared, that the right of election was in the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses; which, as far as inhabitants were concerned, who then claimed a right to vote, was considered to have settled the point beyond all dispute; and the only question therefore was, whether the word burgesses, in the resolution, meant resident burgesses, or burgesses generally, whether resident or non-resident. The charters of incorporation were put in as evidence and read, and various returns of members from the earliest periods, and other documentary evidence, in order to the establishment of the case: the counsel then proceeded to apply his objections to the votes taken at the poll for Admiral Markham, who were non-residents. This produced a long argument, whether the petitioner ought not to have gone into a court of law to remove any of the corporators who were objectionable members; and whether any evidence ought to be admitted to explain the resolution of the House, which, it was contended, was perfectly plain, and could

mean only the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses, in their corporate capacity. The Committee, however, came to the resolution of allowing evidence to be gone into; and an arrangement was proposed, and acceded to, that in order to save the time of the Committee, the agents on both sides should retire and examine the documents, and verify the facts sought to be established. The idea of the inhabitants having a right to vote at elections of members for the borough, the learned counsel most expressly renounced, as having been before most distinctly decided otherwise. The petitioner closed his case; and Mr. Selwyn, as counsel for the sitting member, stated the case of Admiral Markham; and mainly contending that the right of election was in the Corporation, as a corporation; and that the right at the late election was exercised in conformity with the usage from the earliest period. A great number of returns of members were then produced by the proper officers, and the Corporation books, and books from the Heralds' College. Several entries were also adduced from the Corporation books of elections where non-resident burgesses, as well as resident, had voted. The Committee continued the examination of the books, and the counsel for the sitting member being about to proceed into evidence subsequent to the time of the resolution of the House in 1695, Mr. Mereweather, as counsel for Sir George Cockburn, objected to it. Some of the Committee appeared to be desirous that the objections should be argued immediately; and some farther documentary evidence was produced on behalf of the sitting member, in proof of non-residents having voted on former occasions, before the resolution of the House in the year 1695. Mr. Erskine proceeded to sum up the evidence of the sitting member, and to observe on the case made by the plaintiff; and concluded with an eloquent and impressive appeal to the Committee. Mr. Harrison then replied in a most powerful and ingenious speech. The committee deliberated near an hour; and upon the court being opened, the chairman read the resolution of the Committee—That the vote of Mr. Arthur Atherley, jun. (Mr. Atherley being a non-resident) do stand upon the poll. Mr. Mereweather proceeded to address the Committee, by stating farther ob-

jections to the votes taken for the sitting member. These objections were to non-resident aldermen, and were applicable, it appeared, to four. The learned counsel went into a course of observation to show a distinction between the case of non-resident burgesses and non-resident aldermen, with a view to make out that the latter were not entitled to vote, notwithstanding it had been determined by the Committee that the former were good voters. Several questions were here put to the counsel, Mr. Mereweather, by different members of the Committee, which produced farther explanation of the grounds on which he proceeded. He contended that an alderman, voting as an alderman, could only sustain his vote in that character: and that although he may have voted as a burgess, yet that having given his vote as an alderman, it was not a good vote, if he was not a legal alderman. Mr. Selwyn then addressed the Committee on behalf of the sitting member, expressing surprise at the course pursued; and argued forcibly against the objection contended for. Mr. Mereweather replied. After which the Committee was cleared; and upon being again opened, the chairman delivered the resolution of the Committee in favour of the vote objected to. Upon this decision, the petitioner's counsel relinquished all farther objections; and the Committee declared Admiral Markland duly elected; but that the Petition was neither frivolons nor vexatious.

The Speaker's writ in consequence of this decision follows.—

"*Lunæ 5° die Junii*, 1820.

"WHEREAS the Select Committee appointed to try the merits of the petition of Admiral Sir George Cockburn, complaining of an undue election and return for the borough of Portsmouth, have this day reported to the House of Commons, That it appeareth to the said Committee that the merits of the petition did in part depend upon the right of election, and therefore the Committee requested the counsel on both sides to deliver to the clerk of the Committee statements in writing of the right of election for them respectively contended. That in consequence thereof the counsel for the petitioner delivered

in a statement, as follows—'That the Right of Voting in the Borough of Portsmouth, as contended for by the Petitioner, was in the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the said Borough, being resident within the said Borough, or the limits and liberties thereof;'—that the counsel for the sitting member delivered in a statement, as follows—'That the Right of Election of Burgesses to serve in Parliament for the Borough of Portsmouth, is in the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses ONLY.'—That upon the statement delivered in by the counsel of the said petitioner, the said Committee have determined, that the Right of Election, as set forth in the said statement, is NOT the Right of Election for the Borough of Portsmouth, in the county of Southampton; and that upon the statement delivered in by the counsel for the sitting member, the said Committee have determined, that the Right of Election, as set forth by the said statement, is the Right of Election for the said Borough of Portsmouth;—

"I do hereby give you notice, in pursuance of the direction of an Act made in the 28th year of his late Majesty King George the Third, entitled 'An Act for the further regulation of the merits of controverted returns and elections of Members to serve in Parliament.' Given under my hand this 5th day of June.

"GEORGE MANNERS SUTTON."

"To the Returning-Officer of the
Borough of Portsmouth."

No farther evidence was gone into by either party; but Sir George Cockburn's counsel appeared to rely on the evidence which had been given previous to the decision of Saturday last. That on which much stress was laid, was the designation of certain persons in the books of the Corporation, as "Burgences *infra* Burgum *predictum*," and who, as stated, were in a distinct list from the rest of the Corporation, and were always resident Burgesses, serving upon Juries, at the Sessions, and Courts Leet, &c. from whom the Aldermen had been from time immemorial chosen, and were the only legal voters for Members to represent the Borough. The loss of some of the early Corporation books also afforded matter for observation, on the part of the petitioner; and evidence

was adduced to prove their existence in the year 1775, when they were examined in the possession of the Town Clerk, by Mr. Thomas Binstead, who was concerned as solicitor against the prevailing interest in the Corporation, in the *Quo warranto* information of that period.

Upon this part of the case Mr. Selwyn adverted to an affidavit which had been made by Mr. Binstead, and filed, relative to those proceedings, and which affidavit he tendered in evidence, by which, he stated, it would appear, that the matter contained in the books that were lost, was most material to establish the case of the sitting member as to non-resident burgesses; and with respect to burgesses denominated "Burgences *infra*, &c." the distinction taken between them and the rest of the burgesses, it was observed, was wholly unfounded, as the lists themselves, and the books showed. All who were admitted burgesses were sworn in the same manner; and the only distinction between them was, that they were arranged according to their rank or degree; and that all the classes had voted at elections of Members of Parliament prior to the Resolution of the House of Commons in the year 1695.

The books, records, and documentary papers, sent to the House of Commons, as connected with the above disputed question, weighed seven cwt.

1821, Jan. 26, a Petition was presented to Parliament by Sir George Garrett, Knt. the Reverend George Cuthbert, clerk, and other inhabitants of Portsmouth, setting forth, "that your Petitioners are advised that the right of election determined on by the select Committee on June 5, 1820, was not the ancient, and true and legal right of election for the borough of Portsmouth, and that therefore they were not satisfied with the said determination of the aforesaid Committee; and therefore (to prevent the judgment of the said Committee from being final and conclusive) they were desirous of being admitted parties to oppose such right of election." The Speaker gave notice that the House had appointed the 10th day of May to take into consideration the said petition.

Thursday, May 10th.—Mr. Dyson appeared at the bar with the names of the members balloted for to serve upon the Committee appointed to try the petitions rela-

tive to the right of election for Portsmouth borough. The names were then read; namely, W. L. Maberly, Esq. W. Stuart, Esq. of Armagh, Sir Edward Knatchbull, Edmund Pollexfen Bastard, Esq. R. W. Newman, Esq. Lord Stanley, Sir W. Guise, J. W. Croker, Esq. the Hon. R. Clive, R. Carroll, Esq. Sir W. Johnson, R. Williams, Esq. J. W. Griffiths, Esq. Lord J. Russell, and J. Macdonald, Esq. These members were then sworn, and withdrew.

Friday, May 11th.—The Committee of the House of Commons to try the renewed petitions relative to the right of election for the borough of Portsmouth met. Lord John Russell was chosen chairman; Mr. Croker nominee for the petitioners; Mr. Macdonald (Member for Calne) nominee for the Corporation. The Committee (after hearing the speeches of counsel) on May 17th again decided in favour of the right of "non-residents" to vote, the Committee being all of that opinion except one member. The petitioners endeavoured to support the non-existence of such a right, by putting before the Committee five old returns (previous to the decision in 1696, which also confirmed the right to non-resident burgesses,) in which the names of resident burgesses only were included, and some proceedings of the Court leet formerly held in the borough. The Committee considered that in this state of the case their labour would be shortened by proving that non-resident burgesses had voted at the period referred to by the petitioners. Accordingly it was proved that Mr. John White, Mr. Peter Hedge, and another gentleman, all of whom resided in other places, had voted at that period, and that many other non-resident burgesses had voted before and after the same period.

The petitioners then argued that they ought to be permitted to take other grounds of objection to the return made; but the Committee, considering their inability to disprove the facts already stated conclusive of the case, rejected the allegation of the petitioners, and confirmed the decision of the Committee of the last year, "that the Right of Voting at Elections for the Borough of Portsmouth is in the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses generally; and not in the Resident Burgesses only."

It may be worth mentioning, that in the session of Parliament for 1759, 36,966*l.* 2s. 10d. were voted for the defences of various docks; and in the year following, 1760, the House took into consideration the claims of the proprietors of the lands. Upon which a bill being founded, soon passed into a law, without opposition, in the year 1761. Doubts and difficulties having arisen touching the execution of the said act, Parliament voted 634*l.* 13s. 7d. for interest on the sum of 23,800*l.* 11s. 11d. remaining in the Office of Ordnance, and not paid into the hands of the Deputy of the King's Remembrancer of the Court of Exchequer.

From the "Rolls of Parliament."

Vol. i. p. 55. b. No. 118.—Fr'es Hospital' Sc'i Mich'i de Portesmue petunt gratiam D'ni Reg' de Quindecima et Tricesima, que ab eis exiguntur ad Scaccarium. Unde Rex eis facere promisit de p'donis: Et inde petunt Breve Reg' ad Scaccarium.

Vol. i. p. 89. a. No. 35.—Manucaptores Guill'i de Saltu, et Andree de Barante, Magistrorum quarumdam Navium arestatarum apud Portesmutam et Sandwicum, videlicet, Arnaldus Rudi de Solerio, Paschal' de Villa Arnald', Aymoun de Burgo, Petrus Gombal di Garsias, Arn' le Basele, Guill's Sigini de Floyraco.

Isti predicti manucaptores pro predictis Magistris, quod ipsi Magistri venient à die Pasch' in unum mensem ad Parliamentum Domini Regis apud Westm', ad stand' recto, et ad recipiend' rectum, et ad respondend' et ad faciend' id quod de Jure debebunt, &c.

Johannes de Segrave, de Homagio suo faciendo, per ipsum Dominum Regem adjornatus est usque ad Parliamentum predictum, &c.

Item Manucaptores Radulphi de Crumbewelle, scilicet, Simon Basset, Gervasius de Wyleford, Will's Sampson, Ricardus Waldeshef, Ricardus le Curzun de Breydeshale, Johannes de Crumbewelle, Johannes Maullore, Johannes Bek', Johannes Saumpson, et Henricus Gernoun.

No. 152. p. 413.—Au Counseil n're Seygn'r le Roy monstrent ses poveres genz Johan Huchoun, et Thomas Peverell de Shyrbourne en Dorseet, que par la ou il aveynt charge une Nief de Whytesond de vynt et cynq' Mars, et cynquaunt aunes de canevas p's de viii soudz, et dys et

seept livres d'esterlinges, et vyndrent devaunt Portesmuthe le Vendredy p'cheyn apres la Feste de Seint Michel, en l'an du regne le Roy qe ore est, qe Dieu gard, quynszyme, la vyndrent Rob't de la Bataille, Piers Ward, Johan Badding, Johan Dyne, et Andrew Sely, e autres gentz deseonuz des Cynk Portz, et en la dite Nief entrerent a force et armes, et les avaunditz deniers et chateux pristrent et enporterent, encountre la pees, a lour greve damage de $\overset{xx}{\text{iiii}}$ livres, et surmistrent a les ditz Marchauntz q'il furente de Weymouthe lez gentz Roger Damory, et sount de Shyrbourne com les l're overtes l' Evesqe de Salesburys lour tesmoigne. De ceo p'ent remedie.

H'eant Br'e de transgr'oe u'sus transgressores.

Vol. ii. 29 Edw. III.—Par quoi n're dit Seign', a la revenue du Ducs en Engleterre, entendues les choses issint p'lez et accordez, fist apparailler un grande Armee des grosses Niefs, et des gentz d'armes et des archiers, et s'adrescea hors de l'Eawe de Thamise devers les Isles, mes totes voies le vent se monstra contrair a lui, si q'a grant peine il vient a Portesmuth, et y demora grant piece tant q' certeins novels viendrent, q' le dit Roi de Navarr' entreless la dite alliance contre son promesse et serment, feust devenuz Fraunceys et adherdant au dit Adversair n're Seignur le Roi.—p. 264.

Petition to Parliament, Edw. III. the year doubtful.—A n're Seign'r le Roi et a son Counseil monstre William de Fisshacre, Chevaler, q' come il feust nadguers grevousement destreynt de venir a Portesmuth, a un c'teyn jour, de passer la mere u's Gascoyne, et ce p' counseil Waut' adonq; Evesq' de Excestr', pur ceo q' le dit William feust le tenaunt l'Evesq' avant dit a son Man' de Paynton, et avoit une acre de pree gisaunte entre les prees le dit Evesq', et pur coveytise d'av' cele acre de pree il lui tient si dure, et lui fait giser a Portesmuth p' quatre symanes, tan q' il fait sa fyne de xx mars dev's le Roi, et ceo p' coveyne de le dit Evesq' a Hugh le Despens' le fuitz; et, estre ce, le dit Evesq' lui garneist si tard, q'il ne poet se meismes apparailler pur bref' du temps, et le dit Evesq' lui promist p' sa l're de lui av' eide des armures et chivaux, et de ceo il lui desceust, et ce p' eide et counseil le dit Hugh. Et q'nt endroit de ceux xx mars il p'e g'ce.—Nichil inde.—No. 202, p. 414.

Vol. ii. p. 108.—Et fait a remembrer, q' totes les Niefs de Portesmuth, et d'iloq's devers le West, de la charge de cent tonelx et passant, s'a'bleront a Dertemuth le dit jour, et serra assigne lour Admiral le Counte d'Arundell. Et les Niefs de Cynk Portz & de l'eawe de Thamyse de meisme la charge, s'a'blerount a Wynchelse, & serra lour Amiral le Counte de Huntyngdon. Et acordez est, q' totes cestes Niefs serront prest a my qarresme preschein a venir.—13 Edw. III.

Vol. ii. p. 111.—Item acordez est et assentuz, q' Briefs soient faitz as Arraiours des Gentz d'armes, Hobelours, & Arch'rs, pur la garde de meer en Countie d'Oxenford pur le Priour & Chanoigns de Burencestr', de surseer de le demande qu'ils fount as ditz Priour & Chanoigns pur trover un Hom'e d'armes, et deux Arch'rs, pur faire tiele garde a Portesmuth, & auxint de paiement faire des Deners p' cele cause tan q'ils eient autre mandemet du Roi, p' la reson qu'il est avys as Prelatz et autres Grantz en dit Parlement, q' totes les possessions de lour maison purront a payn suffir a lour sustenance: Et q'il ne purront trover tiel charge sanz trop grante oppression de eux et de lour maison.—13 Edw. III.

Vol. iii. p. 628, col. 2.—Anno 1409–1410, 11 Hen. IV. Petition of Sir John Trebeel, stating that he had taken on the seas a vessel of St. Malo's, laden with canvass, and had brought her to the port of Portesmuth, by right of war, and sold the cargo to merchants. That it was afterwards discovered, the said vessel had received a safe-conduct from Richard Duke of York, and consequently ought not to have been captured, &c. &c.

Vol. iv. p. 78. col. 1.—A reference to Letters Patent signed at Portesmer by Henry III.

Vol. iv. p. 417. col. 1.—Anno 1432, 10 Hen. VI. Petition of the Inhabitants of Lymyngton and of the Haven of Newport, complaining of the great loss occasioned by the want of Custumers or Deputies, to receive duties from ships coming to trade, or driven in by stress of weather. In consequence, it is ordered by Parliament, that the Custumarii of the King at Southampton should appoint Deputies in the ports of Lymyngton and Neuport, and also *in portu de Portesmouth*, to take the customs and profits proceeding from merchandise, &c. for the space of one year ensuing.

Vol. v. p. 77. col. 2.—Anno 1444, 23 Hen. VI. Petition of Eton College, rehearsing the Foundation Charter, by which the King, the twenty-third year of his reign, had granted various lands, &c. to the College, and among the rest, confirmed the grant of Portesmouth and other lands, which certain persons, therein named, had granted to the College, after the demise of Alicia, Marchioness of Suffolk, and afterwards wife of Sir John Phillyp, &c.

Vol. v. p. 174, col. 1.—Anno 1450, 28 Hen. VI. Assignation of sums of money for the service of the King's Household. Among them is *De hominibus de Portesmouth, de Feodi firma Ville sue* iiii li'. xviii s'.

Vol. vi. p. 302. col. 2.—Anno 1485, 1 Hen. VII. Assignation of money for the King's Household. Among the items occurs: "Item, of the men of the Towne of Portesmouth, of the Fee Ferme of their Towne, by the hands of the same Men, Bayliffs, or other occupiers for the time beinge, xviii li'. v s'."

Vol. vi. p. 499. col. 2.—Anno 1495, 11 Hen. VII. A confirmation of the Act made 1 Hen. VII. and containing the same item.

Buckland belonged, by Doomsday book, to the family of the De Ports, as did another manor in the same hundred then called Applestede, afterwards called Kingston.

Hugh de Port, was proprietor of the manor of St. John's house at Warnford in the reign of William the Conqueror.

Henry de Port, his son, succeeded him, and was founder of the Priory of Shireburne; and was succeeded by

Adam de Port, who in the year 1172, says Hoveden, "calumniatus fuit de proditione regis, et quia ipse ad summonitionem regis stare judicio noluit exlegatus est ab Anglia." He was however restored again to his rights, on paying 1000 marcs to the king.

William de Port, his son, took his maternal grandmother's name, and signed himself Willielmus de St. John, Filius et Hæres Adæ de Port; in the 15th of King John, gave 500 marcs *Regi* for livery of all the lands of Adam de Port his father; and in the 16th or 17th of John executed the office of Sheriff of the county of Southampton.

The estates of the De Ports became forfeited to the crown on the attainder of John de Port, and the two manors of Buckland and Applestede were given as escheats

of the crown, about the latter end of the reign of John, to the Corporation of Portsmouth, or as it was then expressed, "ad homines de Portesmue." By an inquisition taken in the second year of the reign of Henry VIII. it appears that John Bremshot, Esq. died in the eighth year of the reign of Edward IV. (1450) seized with the manor of Bremshot in the Isle of Wight, certain lands called Little Gatcombe, and twenty-two acres of land in the Island of Portsea, in the county of Southampton.

1825. It appears from a report made by the select Committee of the House of Commons on the Poor Rate Returns, that the parish of Portsea contributes 6*s.* 2*d.* a head upon its population of 38,379 persons to the poor; the parish of Alverstoke 9*s.* 2*d.*; and the parish of Portsmouth 11*s.* 1*d.*—The expenditure of the parish of Portsea, for the last eleven years, was 147,872*l.*—It will be seen, by a statement of the relative expenses of the parishes of Portsmouth, Portsea, and Alverstoke, for the last ten years, and their population (which we subjoin), that the parish of Portsmouth bears a disproportionate burthen, arising from some causes which do not appear. The parish of Alverstoke presents a system of improvement and good management, which we should be much gratified to see imitated. In 1821, the Alverstoke rates averaged 280*l.* only, but now, by a better mode of collecting, they amount to 300*l.* each; and in their last assessment of thirteen rates, there was a deficiency of only 26*l.* arising from all causes.

Years.	*Alverstoke.*	*Portsea.*	*Portsmouth.*
1815	5,428	9,013	3,460
1816	5,446	9,480	4,060*
1817	5,957	17,030	5,190
1818	8,846	21,870	5,570
1819	8,560	17,100	5,360
1820	6,668	15,430	4,600
1821	6,163	13,944	4,170
1822	5,871	13,180	3,470
1823	4,929	11,805	3,750
1824	5,313†	12,020	3,890
1825	5,017	12,170	4,030
POPULATION	10,972	38,379	7,269

* In this year the Gaol expenses commenced paying out of the Poor's Rates. † Including two bonds of 200*l.* paid off.

ASSASSINATION OF VILLIERS DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM.

"BUCKINGHAM, I command you to draw my armie together to Porchemouth, to the end I may send them speedli to Rochell. I shall send after you directions how and whaire to billett them, untill the tyme that ye will be able to shipp them; for the doing whairof, this shall be your sufficient warrant, it being the command of

"Your loving faithfull constant
Frend,
CHARLES R."*

"Whithall the 9th of June, 1628."

"Maddam,—I am to trouble your grace with a most lamentable relation. This day betwixt nine and ten of the clock in the morning, the Duke of Buckingham then comming out of a parlor into a hall to goe to his coach, and soe to the King, (who was four miles off) having about him diverse Lords, Colonels, and Captains, and many of his owne servants, was by one Felton slain at one blow, with a dagger-knife. In his staggering he turned about, uttering onely this word, 'Villaine!' and never spake word more, but presently plucking out the knife from himselfe before he fell to the ground, hee made towards the traytor two or three paces, and then fell against a table, although he were upheld by diverse that were neere him, that [through the villaine's close carriage in the act] could not perceive him hurt at all, but guess'd him to be suddenly oversway'd with some apoplexie, till they saw the blood come gushing from his mouth and the wound soe fast, that life and breath at once left his begored body. Maddam, you may easily guesse what outcryes were then made by us that were commaunders and officers there present, when wee saw him thus dead in a moment, and slaine by an unknowne hand.... In the mean

* MS. Harl. 6988. Num. 50. Orig. entirely in the King's hand.

time Felton passed the throng, which was confusedly great, not soe much as mark'd or followed, in soe much that not knowing where, nor who he was that had done that fact, some came to keep guard at the gates, and others went to the ramports of the towne, in all which tyme the villaine was standing in the kitchen of the same house; and after the enquiry made by a multitude of captaines and gentlemen then pressing into the house and court, and crying out amaine, 'Where is the villaine?' 'Where is the butcher?" hee most audaciously and resolutely drawing forth his sword, came out and went amongst them, saying boldly, 'I am the man, heere I am:' upon which divers drew upon him, with intent to have then dispatcht him; but Sir Thomas Morton, myselfe, and some others, used such means (though with much trouble and difficulty) that we drew him out of their hands; and by order of my Lord High Chamberlaine, we had the charge of keeping him untill a guard of musketeers were brought, to convey him to the Governor's house, where we were discharged. My Lord High Chamberlaine and Mr. Secretary Cooke were then at the Governor's house, did there take his examination, of which as yet there is nothing knowne; onely whilst he was in our custody I asked him several questions, to which he answered, viz. He sayd, he was a Protestant in religion; hee also expressed himselfe that he was partly discontented for want of eighty pounds pay which was due to him; and for that he being a Lieutenant of a company of foot, the company was given over his head unto another, and yet, hee sayd, that that did not move him to this resolution, but that hee reading the Remonstrance of the House of Parliament, it came into his mind, that in committing the act of killing the Duke, hee should do his Country great good service. And hee sayd that to-morrow he was to be prayed for in London. I then asked him, att what church, and to what purpose: hee told me at a church in Fleet-street Conduit, and, as for a man much discontented in mind. Now wee seeing things to fall from him in this manner, suffered him not to be further questioned by any, thinking it much fitter for the Lords to examine him, and to finde it out, and knowe from him whether he was encouraged and sett on by any to performe this wicked deed. But to return to the

screeches made att the fatal blow given,—the Duchesse of Buckingham and the Countesse of Anglesey came forth into a gallery which looked into the hall, where they might behold the blood of their deerest lord gushing from him :—ah, poore ladies! such was their screechings, teares, and distractions, that I never in my life heard the like before, and hope never to heare the like againe. His Maties griefe for the losse of him was expressed to be more than great, by the many teares hee hath shed for him, with which I will conclude this sad and untimely newes. Felton had sewed a writing in the crowne of his hatt, half within the lyning, to shew the cause why hee putt this cruel act in execution; thinking hee should have beene slaine in the place: and it was thus:

'If I bee slaine, let no man condemne himselfe; it is for our sinns that our harts are hardned, and become sencelesse, or else hee had not gone soe long unpunished.

'John Felton.'

'He is unworthy of the name of a gentleman, or soldier, in my opinion, that is afrayd to sacrifice his life for the honor of God, his king, and his country.

'John Felton.'

"Maddam, this is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, yet all too much too, if it had so pleased God. I thought it my bounden duty, howsoever, to let your Matie have the first intelligence of it, by the hand of, Maddam,

"Yo^r sorrowfull Servant,

DUDLEY CARLETON."

"To her Majesty the Queen."

The paper which was found in Felton's hat, and by which he was identified as the assassin of the Duke of Buckingham, is still preserved. It was recently found among the Evelyn papers at Wotton, in Surrey; and is now in the possession of Mr. Upcott, of the London Institution, who has kindly allowed us a sight of it, and likewise a drawing of the house in which the murder was perpetrated. Sir Edward Nicholas, in whose possession the paper was originally, was one of the persons before whom Felton was examined at Portsmouth. His daughter married Sir Richard Brown. Mr. John Evelyn married Sir Richard Brown's daughter. Lady Evelyn, his de-

scendant, presented it to Mr. Upcott. From the drawing we have mentioned, it appears that on the site of the new house now occupied by the Rev. S. Leggatt, stood originally a lofty stone building, apparently a hall.

"In a by-cutler's shop of Tower-hill, he (Felton) bought a tenpenny knife (so cheap was the instrument of this great attempt), and the sheath thereof he sewed to the lining of his pocket, that he might at any moment draw forth the blade alone with one hand, for he had maimed the other. This done, he made shift, partly it is said on horseback and partly on foot, to get to Portsmouth; for he was indigent and low in money, which perhaps might have a little edged his desperation. At Portsmouth, on Saturday, being the 23d of August of that current year, he pressed without any suspicion in such a time of so many pretenders to employment, into an inner chamber, where the duke was at breakfast accompanied with men of quality and action, Monsieur de Saubes and Sir Thomas Fryer: and there, a little before the duke's rising from the table, he went and stood, expecting till he should pass through a kind of lobby between that room and the next, where were divers attending him. Towards which passage, somewhat darker than the chamber which he voided, while the duke came with Sir Thomas Fryer close to his ear, in the very moment as the said knight withdrew himself from the duke, this assassinate give him, with a back blow, a deep wound into his left side, leaving the knife in his body; which the duke himself pulling out, on a sudden effusion of spirits, he sunk down under the table in the next room, and immediately expired. Within the space of not many minutes after the fall of the body and removal thereof into the first room, there was not a living creature in either of the chambers. The very horror of the fact had stupified all curiosity. Thus died this great peer, in the 36th year of his age complete, and three days over, in a time of great recourse unto him and dependance upon him, the house and town full of servants and suitors; his duchess in an upper room, scarce yet out of bed; and the court at that time six or nine miles from him, which had been the stage of his greatness." Reliquiæ Wotton. 12mo. Lond. 1651.

" . . . . Felton was on Friday night brought to the Tower by water, . . . being put into the same lodging where Sir John Elliott lay, and allowed two dishes of meat at each meal. . . . My Lord of Cleveland, who had but newly turned his back from the duke, and was so near that he heard the thump, and a Scottishman, a bishop of Ireland, who was at Portsmouth, affirm, that when Felton gave the blow he said, 'God have mercy on thy soul!' September 20th, 1628."

" On Wednesday last week, when no man expected any such thing, was Felton, before break of day, conveyed from the Tower to the Gatehouse, and between six and seven o'clock that morning, attended by the sheriff and many armed men, brought to the King's Bench bar. His indictment being read, he confessed the fact; but added, that he did it not maliciously, but out of an intent for the good of his Country. Then Mr. Attorney made a speech in aggravation of the murder; . . . he produced the knife in open court, comparing him to Ravilliak, &c. Then Justice Jones, being the ancient on the bench, gave sentence that he should be hanged untill he was dead, but mentioned neither time nor place. At Tyburn, where he was hanged, he testified much repentance, and so took his death very stoutly and patiently. He was very long a dying (Saturday). His body is gone to Portsmouth, there to be hanged in chains."*

* Extracts from original letters from Mr. Mead to Sir Martin Stuteville, December 13, 1628.

HISTORICAL OCCURRENCES, INCIDENTS, &c.

A. D. 501. A body of Saxons landed at Portsmouth, from two large galleys, under the command of Porth and his sons, Bleda and Magla; defeated the Britons; killed their commander, and took possession of the surrounding country: which Porth afterwards held in vassalage of Cerdic. —838. Æthelhelm, governor of Dorsetshire, routed a band of Danes which had disembarked at Portsmouth, from a fleet which appeared between this and Southampton, and obtained a complete victory, though with the loss of his life.—From this period to 1066 Portsmouth suffered very considerably from these predatory visits.—1066. William the First meditating an invasion of this kingdom, a fleet of 700 sail was fitted out by Harold, and cruised about this harbour and the Isle of Wight. Their vigilance did not however intercept the Norman fleet of 300 ships and 60,000 men.—1086. A fleet raised by William to oppose Canute, rendezvoused at Portsmouth.—1101. Robert Duke of Normandy, claiming the crown of England, landed at Portsmouth about the middle of August without opposition. About this period Henry the First spent his Whitsun week at Portsmouth, previous to his departure into Normandy. —In September 1139, the Empress Matilda, with the Earl of Gloucester, and only one hundred and forty men, landed at Portsmouth without opposition.—March 1182, Henry the Second, who (in the great disturbances between Philip of France and Philip Earl of Flanders) was their guarantee and umpire to make peace between them, came to Portsmouth, and prior to his departure made his will near the sea-side in that town.—August 13, 1189, Richard, his son, landed at Portsmouth from France.—May 12, 1194, King Richard embarked at Portsmouth for Barfleur, with a fleet of one hundred large ships and a strong body

of forces.—1201. King John, with his Queen Isabella, embarked at Portsmouth, in the Whitsun week, for Normandy. —In the quarrels between this monarch and the Barons, he privately withdrew to this town, and, attended only by seven attendants, retired to the Isle of Wight. He shortly after embarked at Portsmouth, and sailed to Dover. —1221. Henry the Third, with all his earls, barons, and knights, and one of the finest armies ever raised in England, assembled at Portsmouth.—1231. King Henry landed at Portsmouth from his expedition to France.—March 15, 1242. King Henry, with his Queen, Prince Richard his brother, seven earls, three hundred knights, and thirty hogsheads of silver, embarked at this port for Guienne.—August 1253. King Henry, with a thousand transports and numerous troops, sailed from Spithead for Gascony.—1344. Portsmouth first sent one member to Parliament.—May 1346. King Edward III. assembled a fleet of 1600 ships, and set sail from St. Helen's the 4th of June, 1346: his army consisted of 4000 men, 10,000 archers, 12,000 Welsh infantry, 6000 Irish, and a great number of the chief nobility.—1372. The king issued orders for all vessels in England and Wales to enter into his service, and assemble on or before the first of May in the harbour of Portsmouth.—July 13, 1377. The French infest Portsmouth and burn it; but the inhabitants furiously attacked them, and drove them back to their ships with great slaughter.—July 1386. The Duke of Lancaster embarked at Portsmouth for Spain with an army of 28,000 men: he carried with him Constantia of Castile, his wife, with his two daughters Philippa and Catherina; King Richard II. and his Queen accompanied them to Portsmouth, and wishing them success, presented them with two gold crowns.—1416. The English fleet blocked up by the French ships at Portsmouth.—1445. Margaret of Anjou, attended by the Marchioness of Suffolk and a large assemblage of nobility, landed at Portsmouth, and proceeded to the priory of Southwick, where she was married to Henry VI. on the 18th of April.—1475. 30,000 men reviewed on Southsea Common by King Edward IV. on the 26th of May.—Among the privy purse expenses of King Henry VIII. is the following curious entry: "July 20, 1532. Paid to Xpofer Morys, gonner, Cornelys

Johnson, the maister Smythe, and Henry Johnson, for their costs in ryding to Portismouthe to viewe the King's ordenaunce there, by the space of x dayes at x s' the daye, v li'." (8vo. 1827, p. 233.)

In the autumn of 1544 the French King invaded England with one hundred and fifty large ships, besides twenty-five galleys, and fifty small vessels and transports. They set sail for England on the 6th of July, and on the same evening anchored off St. Helen's point, in the Isle of Wight. King Harry ordered the English forces to rendezvous at Portsmouth; near to which at Spithead, his navy, commanded by Viscount Lisle, High Admiral of England, lay. He soon after repaired to Portsmouth, and joined the army. At day-break, on the 19th, the French Admiral, Monsieur D'Annebart, being determined to provoke the English fleet to a combat, sent in some of his gallies with orders to fire upon our ships, whilst they were at anchor under shelter of the forts. These orders were accordingly executed by Paulin Baron de la Garde, who had the conduct of the gallies. Some of the celebrated paintings in fresco (formerly at Cowdrey house, Sussex, before the fire in 1793) were descriptive of these events. One of these paintings presented a view of the harbour, town and fortifications of Portsmouth, Southsea Castle, Spithead, Isle of Wight, and part of the adjacent county of Southampton, as also of the French and English fleets, and part of the English camp. The entrance or gate of the town of Portsmouth, on the land side, was placed so as to face the spectator, and the other three sides appeared to be encompassed by a single wall, and fortified at the angles by circular forts or bastions. At a small distance from the town, and near to the point, was the English camp, defended, on that part of its front which faces towards St. Helen's, by a circular fort, mounted with four guns. The King, mounted on a stately charger, whose head-stall, rein and stirrups, were studded and embossed with gold, was represented as riding from the town of Portsmouth, and just ENTERING SOUTHSEA CASTLE, IN HIS WAY TO THE CAMP. He wore on his head a black bonnet with a white feather, and was dressed in a jacket of cloth of gold, and a surcoat or

gown of brown velvet, with breeches and hose of white silk. His countenance appeared serene and sedate; all the features of his face were highly finished, and the portrait was by good judges esteemed to be the greatest likeness then existing of that monarch. On his right hand were seen three henchmen, or pages, on foot, dressed in the royal uniform, and bearing their bonnets in their hands; and on his left were two lacqueys, likewise on foot, dressed in different liveries. Behind the King were two persons on horseback; the one on the right, the Duke of Suffolk, the King's lieutenant in the expedition, mounted on a black charger. The other was Sir Antony Brown, the King's Master of the Horse, mounted on a white charger. These were followed by two demi-lancemen, horsed and completely harnessed. Between the camp and the fort on the point, was a large band of pikemen in armour; and close to their left flank were seen a numerous band of gunners. Off Bembridge Point, stretching along St. Helen's road, were the numerous French fleet under their topsails; off that part which is known by the name of No-man's-land, were the French galleys; and still farther inward were four other galleys, firing at the English fleet which was lying at Spithead. These were undoubtedly placed here to represent and point out the position of those which had been detached by the French Admiral under Baron de la Garde, to provoke the English fleet and bring on a general engagement. Behind the English squadron, on shore on the Gosport side, were three large circular forts or bastions, each mounted by two tier of cannon, one over the other, and casemated in such a manner as to secure the gunners from all danger. Between the Spit and the entrance into Portsmouth harbour, the mast-heads of a large man of war appeared just above water. Near to them were two boats full of men, seemingly in great distress, rowing towards the English fleet; and several dead bodies and parts of rigging were seen floating on the water. This scene was introduced to show the fate of the Mary Rose, the second ship in point of size at that time belonging to the English navy, which (from some cause or other, on which historians have not agreed) sunk at the very beginning of the engagement between the two fleets; by which accident

Sir George Carew, her commander, with about 600 men, perished. This accident was supposed to have been occasioned by the weight of her cannon. A small French galley only was represented firing towards the place where the Mary Rose sunk, but she is both at too great a distance, and her metal far too light, to do any such mischief. Another of these galleys was seen firing at the English Admiral's ship, who returns that fire with her bow-chasers. This ship was the Great Harry, on board of which the High Admiral, Viscount Lisle, embarked. This ship, *the only one with three masts* in the whole squadron, had her quarters and sides, according to the practice of those times, fortified with targets, charged with the cross of St. George, and other heraldic devices, and was represented as having all her sails set, and bearing down upon the French fleet. Of the rest of the English squadron, some were under weigh, some weighing their anchors with top-sails set, &c. The subject of the before described painting, as far as it was therein represented, was evidently handled with the greatest attention to truth; all was regular, circumstantial, and intelligible; nothing misrepresented, disguised, or confused.—We have in our possession a print of Portsmouth and its environs at this period, with King Henry the Eighth forming the prominent figure in the foreground.

"Our most nobell Prince Charles arived at Portsmouth the fifth of October, from Spaine, 1623, being Sondaye, at 9 o'clock in morning." *From the fly-leaf of an old copy of "Elyot's Governor;" written by an eye-witness named Lilly.*—June 27, 1627. The Duke of Buckingham, with 100 sail of ships, and 7000 land forces, set sail from Portsmouth, for the city of Rochelle, in France, and in November returned to England with some disgrace, having effected nothing, and lost one-third of his troops.—August 23, 1628. The Duke of Buckingham being at Portsmouth, equipping another fleet for the relief of Rochelle, was stabbed by John Felton, a discontented lieutenant. He was hung at Tyburn, November 19, of the same year, and in chains, on Southsea Common.—September 21, 1648. Goring keeps Portsmouth for the King, but it was invested by the forces of the Parliament and taken.—December 1659.

Portsmouth and the fleet declare for the Parliament.—January 16, 1660. The Queen Mother, with her daughter, Princess Henrietta, set out for France from Portsmouth.—May 21, 1662. King Charles the Second married to the Infanta of Portugal, by Dr. Gilbert Sheldon, at the Government chapel.—October 4, 1664. His Majesty and the Duke of York came to Portsmouth, to hasten the equipment of a squadron of men of war, to be commanded by Prince Rupert.—November 9. The Duke of York again visited Portsmouth, and took upon him the command of the fleet: he was joined by Prince Rupert and the Earl of Sandwich.—1672. The Duke and many of the flower of our nation now under sail, coming from Portsmouth through the Downs.—August 9, 1673. Louise de Querouaille created Baroness of Petersfield, Countess of Farnham, and Duchess of Portsmouth.—January 22, 1687. The Duke of Berwick made Governor of Portsmouth.—1688. The Prince of Wales and Great Treasurer sent privily to Portsmouth, the Earl of Dover being Governor.—May 16, 1689. King William came to Portsmouth, dined on board the Elizabeth with Admiral Herbert, where he knighted Captains Ashby and Shovel, and distributed rewards among the seamen (ten shillings a man) for their services in Bantry Bay.—Nov. 30, 1689. Great mortality in the fleet in the harbour and elsewhere, caused by the commissioners for victualling the navy furnishing corrupt and unwholesome food.—January 1690. Sir Richard Graham, Bart. Viscount Preston, John Ashton, and Edmond Elliott, Gents. arraigned at the Old Bailey for high treason, for that, on the 29th of December last, they consulted and conspired to raise a rebellion against King William and Queen Mary, and for informing the French King by letters, of the state of the English fleet, of the harbour of Portsmouth, and how the same might be taken: Ashton was hung at Tyburn, my Lord Preston was pardoned on the promise of making farther disclosures, Elliott was never brought to trial, and Graham absconded.—1692. Spithead appointed the rendezvous of the armament against France. Admiral Russell, with an immense fleet, sailed from St. Helen's, and gained a complete victory over the French.—February 16, 1693. William III. visited Portsmouth, reviewed the fleet, dined on

board with Vice-Admiral Rooke, on whom he conferred the honour of knighthood.—May 30, 1702. The grand fleet under Sir George Rooke rendezvous at Spithead.—July 1. The grand fleet, with 10,000 land forces on board, under the Duke of Ormond, set sail from St. Helen's.—January 1703. Captains Kerby and Wade tried and condemned to die in the West Indies; sent home in the Bristol, and both shot at Spithead, not being suffered to land on English ground.—Jan. 5. The Dutch Rear-Admiral Vanden Dussen arrived at Spithead with 1800 land forces, to join the English squadron in an attempt on the Spanish West Indies.—December 23. The King of Spain landed at Portsmouth, came to Windsor . . . and having presented the great ladies with costly presents, returned to Portsmouth and immediately embarked for Spain.—July 29, 1708. Admiral Sir George Bing sailed with a large fleet to make a descent upon France, returned, and again anchored at Spithead on the 28th of August.—March. An act passed for appointing commissioners to treat and agree for certain lands, tenements, and hereditaments, as shall be judged proper for the better fortifying Portsmouth.—April 18, 1710. Four Indian Kings of the Six Nations that lie between New England and the French settlements in Canada, arrived in England, had an audience with the Queen, and on the 8th of May set sail from Portsmouth for New England.—Feb. 1710. Certain fraudulent practices of Thomas Ridge, M.P. and Messrs. Rolfe, Best, Tylhurst and Kelly, brewers, of Portsmouth, discovered and exposed.—Oct. 9, 1711. Sir Hovenden Walker and Brigadier Hill, with a large fleet, returned to Portsmouth from Canada; and on the 15th instant the Edgar was accidentally blown up, with 400 seamen and several other people on board, all the officers being on shore.—August 31, 1712. Lord North and Grey made Governor of Portsmouth, vice Lieut.-General Erle.—July 29, 1714. While the Queen lay ill, the Duke of Ormond gave orders for doubling the guards, and assembling the troops; and Portsmouth was put in a posture of defence. —August 1st. On the death of Anne, John Carter (the grandfather of the late Sir John Carter) being in the Royal Exchange, was a spectator of the ceremony of the proclamation of George the First. Having finished his

business, he immediately set off for Portsmouth on foot. On his arrival here, on August the 3d, he promulgated the news. Parties at that time ran high, and many expressed hopes that the House of Brunswick would not succeed to the dominion of these realms. Among the most zealous of the Jacobites here was Gibson, the Governor, who threatened Mr. Carter with imprisonment for what he termed a false and seditious report. [From a brief memoir of the late Dr. Bayley of Chichester, who was related to the Carter family.]—The Parliament order the reinforcement of the Garrison of Portsmouth; and, on September 27, Thomas Erle, Esq. was made Governor of Portsmouth.—1718, June 3. Sir George Byng, with a large fleet, sailed from Spithead for the Mediterranean.—March 29, 1719. The Earl of Berkeley, with a large fleet, sailed from Spithead to the westward.—1727. An armament got ready at Portsmouth, against Spain, under Sir Charles Wager.—June 4, 1729. Vice-Admiral Van Somelsdyke arrived at Spithead, with a Dutch squadron, to act in concert with the British.—October 1730. Seven Chiefs, or Kings of the Cherokee Indians, embarked at Portsmouth on board the Fox man of war, and returned to their own country. They were brought over to England from Carolina by Sir Alexander Cummins, presented to his Majesty, submitted themselves, with their country, to the Crown of Great Britain, and were dismissed with presents.—November 7. The Duke of Argyle made Governor of Portsmouth.—July 14, 1731. A fleet of forty men of war, under the command of the Hon. Sir Charles Wager, sailed from Spithead for the coast of Spain.—September 18, 1740. Admiral Anson sailed with his squadron towards the coasts of South America. In this year, also, an extensive and powerful fleet, consisting of twenty-one sail of the line and three fire-ships, under Admiral Sir John Norris, destined for a secret expedition, sailed on the 14th of July for Portugal and the Streights, and having put back several times by hard and contrary winds, finally returned to Spithead on the 30th of September. In the same year another immense fleet, under the command of Sir Chaloner Ogle, consisting of twenty-one sail of the line, besides frigates and fire-ships, with about 12,000 sailors on board, detachments of foot soldiers, and

six regiments of marines, sailed from Spithead for the West Indies.—April 1741. An Act passed, to enable Thomas Smith, Esq. to supply the town of Portsmouth and parts adjacent, with good water, at his own charge.—1747. The flower of the French navy brought into Spithead by Admiral Hawke.—March 18, 1750. A severe shock of an earthquake felt at Portsmouth.—On the 28th of December, 1756, the unfortunate Admiral John Byng was tried by a Court Martial, in Portsmouth harbour, on board the Saint George, to which ship he was conveyed from Greenwich by a party of horse guards, and insulted in every town and village through which he passed; and although the court were of opinion that his misconduct arose neither from disaffection or cowardice, and sent a remonstrance to the Admiralty in his favour, he was shot on board the Monarque on the 14th of March, 1757: "thus fell, to the astonishment of all Europe, Admiral John Byng; who, whatever his errors and indiscretions might have been, seems to have been rashly condemned, meanly given up and cruelly sacrificed to vile considerations."—Thursday, August 4. One of the Princes of the blood from the Court of Portugal landed at Portsmouth, was received by the Portuguese Embassador, and had all the honours paid him by the Commandant Officer of the Garrison due to his illustrious birth.—November 17, 1759. The corpse of General Wolfe landed from Spithead with high naval and military honours.—July 28, 1768. Sergeant Williams hung on Southsea Common for the murder of Samuel Lewis, landlord of the Battle of Minden at Hilsea.—Tuesday, June 22, 1773, at ten o'clock in the morning, King George III. arrived, under a salute of two hundred and thirty-two pieces of cannon, and returned on the Saturday following, with similar honours. He was received by all the men in the Dock-yard, having green boughs in their hats, and appearing at a distance like a walking wood, who gave him three cheers on his approach. He left 1500*l.* for the artificers of the different departments; 350*l.* to the seamen of the Barfleur's yacht; 250*l.* to the poor; and gave those in the Dock-yard a week's pay, and half a holiday every day with their one

tide.—Thursday, June 9, 1774. King William's effigy in Portsmouth yard finished gilding with gold leaf. —June 14, 1775. The shipwrights in the yard stood out for work, and went in again on the 21st: stood out again on the 28th, and the major part returned on the 7th and 12th of August.—July 5, 1776. At ten minutes before six in the morning his M. S. Marlborough was blown up in the harbour near the hulks moorings; thirty people killed and many more wounded.—Monday, March, 1777, eight minutes before one o'clock, Jack the Painter hung.—March 26. There was docked the Bristol fifty-gun ship in the north dock, being the first since it was rebuilt.—On April 9, the first alarum bell set up at the corner of the Crane-house going over to the new ground in his Majesty's dock.—Friday, May 30, died Mr. Parlby, (the architect of the docks,) of an apoplexy, at Mr. Bayley's, the master caulker's house in the dock, and buried on the following Thursday, at nine o'clock at night.—May 2, 1778, his Majesty and the Queen came to Portsmouth ten minutes after one o'clock at noon; and on Sunday morning went to Portsmouth chapel, where the Rev. G. Cuthbert preached, taking his text from the sixth chapter of Deuteronomy, and the thirteenth verse; on the 7th the King went down into, and examined the north basin in the yard, and with the Queen returned to London from Mr. Gambier's the commissioner, the men having laurel branches and blue ribbons in their hats. —June 4th, 1778, being his Majesty's birth-day, all the men of the dock, with the foremen, quartermen, converters, measurers, &c. walked in grand procession, with blue ribbons and laurel branches in their hats, and white wands in their hands: they went to the commissioner's house and round the yard from the officers'-houses, into town to the Governor's-house, out at the Landport-gate, so far as Mr. Friend's, by Mr. Eyers' mill, and having a heavy shower of rain, could not go round Kingstone, so turning back went down Queen-street and so along the Hard, drew up, gave three cheers, and went home about half-past six in the evening.—On June 25, the troops encamped on Southsea and Weovil Commons; remained till October 28.—On August 19, the Academites first

began to learn the use of great guns, by firing at a mark six times with two cannon pieces on the new ground in the dock.—On January 7, 1779, on Thursday, began the trial, at the Governor's-house, on Admirals Keppel and Palasier for not taking the French fleet. Admiral Palasier resided at the house now occupied by Captain Madden, which had all the windows broken by the mob. —On Tuesday, June 22, a midshipman hung on board the Culloden for attempting to carry the ship to France. —July 1. Camps formed at Southsea and at Spring Garden commons, Gosport; continued till November.—Wednesday, March 1st, 1780, great illuminations in the towns for Rodney's victory.—On April 24, (being Monday) at four o'clock in the afternoon, began the piles for the enlargement of the new ground in his Majesty's dock. —May 18, about three in the morning, Admiral Sir Charles Hardy died suddenly at the Fountain Inn.—On June 6, Admiral Evans hoisted his flag on board the *Basilisk fire-ship*, in Portchester lake, and thence she removed to blockhouse-hole.—September 6. The camps removed to the top on this side Portsdown-hill.—February 27, a dreadful gale of wind, which did much damage, and blew a French privateer into the harbour.—The contents of the new ground in the dock are 621,964 square feet, or fifteen acres, fourteen yards, and one foot, as measured by Mr. . . . . .—On July 30, Mr. Bryan executed for murder at Winchester, was brought in the afternoon of the same day and hung in chains on Blockhouse-beach, near Jack the Painter, in a new suit of black, new shoes, and ruffles.—October 29. The old clock taken down, and a new clock put up at the new stores in his Majesty's dock.—April 29, 1782; on Monday, the new Baptist Meeting-house, in White's-row on the common, was commenced, the foundation being laid, and it was consecrated on Wednesday morning, October 30, in this year.—On Tuesday afternoon, May 14, Mr. Linzey the surgeon, formerly mayor of Portsmouth, died suddenly in his parlour.—May 15, Mr. Hallsea ordained at the Baptist Chapel.—October 31. A dreadful fire on the Hard; several houses destroyed.—August 20, the Royal George sunk at Spithead.—On December 19, the Lord Bishop of Winchester consecrated the burial-ground at Kingstone,

(Thursday morning) which was the third time of its being enlarged. Monday, February 17, 1783. His Majesty's ships—Vigilant and Royal William, the first ships paid off on account of peace.—On June 12, the Duc de Chartres and family visit Portsmouth.—June 29, the Rev. John Ballard, the new vicar of Portsea, read prayers for the first time.—July 4, young Prince William came up from sea with the Spanish colours, and went next day to London.—On Sunday morning, July 6, the Marines came from Hilsea and first did duty in the Dock-yard.—On Saturday, July 19, all the warders left their posts on account of the marines doing duty in the yard.

March 29, 1784, the first balloon set off at Portsmouth behind the Sadler's Wells. The name of the individual who opened this Sadler's Wells at the White Swan, in opposition to the regular theatre, was Luke Kent, (not Perry, as before stated.) He first kept the turnpike-gate at Postbridge, and afterwards became landlord of the Goat public-house, opposite the present theatre, where now stand the houses through which runs the passage to the Glaziers-arms, in St. Thomas-street, where he amassed, in a very short time, a good fortune. He then opened the Sadler's Wells, and was assisted by James Perry, and the most celebrated mimic of his time, who assumed the name of Rossignol, from his imitations of the songs of different birds, more particularly the nightingale; in fact it became highly difficult to distinguish the natural from his artificial, and equally melodious notes. He was accustomed to procure a variety of birds, as the lark, nightingale, robin, linnet, thrush, blackbird, and others, and, having first given his excellent imitation of the songs of each, to let them loose amongst the audience, to their no small gratification, and utter discomfiture of the friends of the regular drama. On one occasion, so close a resemblance had his voice to the crowing of the cock, that a beautiful little bantam, which he had just been imitating, and had now thrown from his hand on the stage, regardless of the thunders of applause with which his imitator had been assailed, paced majestically to and from the boards, repeatedly crowing, and heroically demanding, as it were, his supposed adversary to come

forth. *Kent* afterwards became the guard of the Chichester coach, and it is rather curious that he was the first individual who ever filled such a place on the establishment of mail coaches.

March 11, 1785. The Rev. Mr. Walters, of the Dock-chapel, died.—April 7, on Thursday morning the foundation of the Beneficial Society's Hall laid; and the society first walked in procession to the new chapel on October 14, when Mr. Shaw officiated, and the Vicar preached.—November 15, the first grand concert of vocal and instrumental music was performed in this hall, and the school was opened January 9, 1786.—Jan. 8, 1786. Last time of service being performed in the old Dock chapel, by the Rev. Mr. Bayley; and the last prayer-day was on the Wednesday following.—March 10. The chapel pulled down.—October 3. On Tuesday evening was administered the Holy Sacrament, by the Rev. Dr. Coke, at the Bishop-street long rooms; it was over at half past nine o'clock.—On Monday, October 30, the foundation of the Officers' houses in his Majesty's dock was laid.—November 25. On Sunday was opened the new bridge-gate, over the moat against the mill-gate.—On February 4 was opened the new Dock chapel, by the Rev. Mr. Browne; the text from Job, the third chapter and the tenth verse.—May 17, 1787. The parish bounds rode by the minister and parishioners, the first time of including in it the new ground of his Majesty's dock.—June 4, being his Majesty's birthday, the foundation stone of St. John's church, in Prince George's-street, was laid at eleven o'clock A. M. by the Rev. —— Bollard, Vicar of Kingstone.—September 25. Eight sail of the line ordered for immediate service from this dock-yard.—On Monday, October 1, began digging the foundation of Mr. Pennington's chapel, in Daniel-street, which was opened for divine service on Sunday the 30th of March, 1788.—June 17, 1793. The La Nymphe frigate, Sir Edward Pellew, captured the French frigate Cleopatra, which was the first prize brought into Spithead after the commencement of the war. The main-mast of the captured ship now forms the centre pillar of the mill near Lump's Fort, on which the vanes revolve.—June 15, 1794. Lord Howe, with the fleet under his command, arrived at Spithead, after his glorious victory

on the first of June, and landed at Portsmouth amidst the hearty and deafening acclamations of the inhabitants. He proceeded to the Governor's house on the Grand Parade, where on the next day he held a levee, at which the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses were introduced.—On the 25th June, his Royal Highness Prince Ernest Augustus and two of the young Princesses arrived here; and on the following day his Majesty George III. Queen, and the three other Princesses, arrived at the Commissioner's house in the Dock-yard, at eleven o'clock. The Royal visitors on the same day proceeded in their barges to Spithead, and went on board the Queen Charlotte under a grand salute from the garrison, forts, and fleet. They then went round the fleet, and returned to the Commissioner's house. The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses were received on Friday the 27th, at the Governor's house. On Saturday, his Majesty and Royal party witnessed the launch of the Prince of Wales, 98 guns, took a second trip to Spithead, and went on board the Amphion, attended divine service in the Dock chapel on the next day (Sunday), examined the Dock-yard, and on the Monday morning left this town and set sail for Southampton.—August, 1799. Earl St. Vincent with his fleet arrived at Spithead, after his signal victory over the French, landed at the Dock-yard, received the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses at the Admiralty-house (106 in the High-street), and by them admitted a burgess of the town.—October 19, 1799. The Impregnable, 98, totally wrecked on the Woolsner Sands; she was afterwards purchased by Mr. Lindegren.—November 9. Two merchant ships caught fire in the harbour; and his Majesty's ship Prince Frederick, 64, at Spithead.—An officer in the army apologizes to the mayor for entering a house in the garrison without a peace-officer to search for deserters.—November 16. All the projecting signs in the garrison ordered to be taken down.—23. A large Russian fleet arrived at Spithead, and a fleet of 300 ships sailed from thence.—December 7. A splendid banquet given to the Russian officers at the Government-house, lent for the occasion by the governor, Sir William Pitt. The guests were so pleased with the ornaments on the pastry, that they requested them to send home as presents to their

friends.—January 6, 1800. The bakers close their ovens and refuse to provide bread, in order to induce the magistrates to raise the assize of that article.—January 18. A court-martial on a lieutenant of the navy for throwing a cup of tea in another lieutenant's face, thereby scalding his nose, and for which serious crime he was dismissed the service.—January 27. The Prince of Orange visited the port and arsenal.—February. An extensive fire in the malt-house of Messrs. Deacon, in the High-street.—February 8. A large fleet under Admiral Whitshed sailed from Spithead.—February 24. Pizarro produced at this theatre with great splendour; Rolla dressed in the costume of Richard III.—March 1. Inflammatory papers distributed in the town respecting the high price of bread.—March 8. An expedition of 10,000 men ordered to embark here.—March 22. 15,000 of the guards embarked here. —April 19. Mr. Richard Dart, (commonly called Dickey Dart, or the Wooden Grocer) in St. James street, found murdered behind the counter. He was a man of penurious habits, and remarkable for his attire.—April 20. Earl St. Vincent arrived to take the command of the channel fleet, of forty-one sail of the line.—May 1. The Duc d'Orleans, Duc de Monpensier, Comte de Burgelois and suite, embarked for the Mediterranean.—May 5. The bells in the house occupied by Mr. Rood (now Hill and Perkins) continued to ring most violently all day without any apparent cause which could be discovered, to the great alarm of the family and neighbourhood. So violent, indeed, was the motion of some of them, that they were actually forced from their fastenings in the wall. Strange and unaccountable noises were also heard at this, and also at a house, No. 15, in Lombard-street, and at Mr. Peake's in the Dock-yard. The noises at the former were at one time a continued rapping, like a number of hammers at work; and at another, like the falling of some immense building, whilst at the latter continued groans appeared to issue from a large hollow tree near the house. These occurrences took place only when a servant girl, who had lived in all these places, was present at particular parts of the premises. This girl, a short time since, was living at ———, and report says that there is one particular room in the house she occu-

pied, into which she had never been able to muster sufficient resolution to enter.—June 1. Thirty-one sail of Russian men of war at Spithead.—July 26. A thousand pound weight of bread bestowed on the French prisoners at Portchester castle, by a benevolent person of the name of Deaken, known by the title of "the man with the black beard," who visited the town selling Tunbridge ware.—John Duncan, mutineer of the Hermione, executed.—August 4. A grand review and sham fight at Cumberland-fort.—15. Five thousand troops embarked here in thirty transports.—Watson and Allen, mutineers of the Hermione, executed.—August 23. The Duke of Richmond inspects the fortifications.—September 1. Tumultuous meetings every evening in St. George's square, respecting the great rise of bread, and great destruction of windows.—September 8. Prince William of Gloucester visited this port.—September 17. The Prince and Princess of Orange visit this port.—Thursday, October 2. A splendid review on Southsea common, by the Duke of York. —November 22. The Mediterranean fleet and convoy arrive at Stokes Bay, consisting of 316 sail.—December 13. Provisions so scarce that servants were allowed only one quartern loaf per week, and the sum of nine hundred pounds collected in this town and Gosport, for the purchase of Scottish herrings to supply the poor.—December 20. Prince Augustus arrived here.—The son of Mr. Capel, attorney, the first in Portsmouth inoculated with the vaccine virus. January 3, 1801. Fetes in honour of the Union, at the Government-house, by Admiral and Lady Durham. The Union flag first hoisted on the platform, and the new standard in the harbour, which was saluted by the fleet.—April 11. The steam-engine in the Dock-yard set to work for the first time.—May 16. The standard of the Invincibles landed here from Egypt.—June 13. The Dreadnought launched at this Dock-yard, after being thirteen years on the stocks; she was coppered in the short space of SIX HOURS, on a Sunday, and went out of harbour on the Monday following.—A signal was made about this time, of the appearance of the French fleet, and the town was put in a condition of defence.—Volunteers in sad trepidation.—July 1. Sixpence a day allowed the workmen in the Dock-yard instead of chips.

—August 1. Great preparations made to resist the threatened invasion: at this period there was not a single naval officer on shore.—William Prince of Gloucester landed here, and created a Burgess of the Corporation.—September 12. The Duke of York inspects the fortifications.—November 10. Admiral Markham elected M.P. for Portsmouth.—November 15. Splendid funeral procession of Lord Hugh Seymour, M.P. for this Borough.—March 27, 1802. Settled salaries of 240*l.* per annum first given to the foremen in the Dock-yard.—April 3. The most notorious of the mutineers of the Bounty executed.—April 11. Six thousand French prisoners leave this for France, from Portchester castle.—April 24. The Elgin marbles landed here; and on this day his Majesty's pleasure of conferring the title of Royal on the Marine corps was announced.—July 16. The Hon. T. Erskine and Admiral Markham elected for the Borough.—In September of this year, Southsea Common was much the resort of footpads.—Sunday, March 8, 1803. A hot press, and five hundred able seamen obtained in this town under the following circumstances. Captain Bowen, at ten o'clock at night, assembled a party of marines with as much noise and parade as possible, to march to quell a pretended riot at Moncton fort, on the Haslar side of the water. As the news spread, hundreds of people ran to see the expected affray; and Captain Bowen no sooner saw his object was obtained, than he placed a party of marines at the end of Haslar bridge, and took every man that answered his purpose.—Wednesday, May 18. Lord Nelson hoisted his flag on board the Victory.—August 5. The men in the Victualling department enrolled for the artillery under W. Reeks, Esq. and all the men in the Dock-yard volunteer to be employed in any manner.—August 7. All the troops, militia and volunteers, inspected on Southsea Common by the Dukes of York and Cambridge. August 5. The Portsmouth Comedians wish to be instructed in military exercises, and offer their services to the King.—August 30. H. R. H. the Prince of Wales visited this port, inspected Hilsea Barracks and Cumberland Fort, was present at a grand review on Southsea Common, and was presented with the freedom of the Borough by the Corporation.—September 14. H. R. H. the Prince of Wales made

a second visit to this port, and inspected the fleet at Spithead.—October 14. Portsmouth put into an almost invulnerable state of defence by General Whitelock, who at this time mounted those immense mortars now on the Queen's bastion; and Forts Moncton and Cumberland supplied with provisions for 2000 men for two months.—October 19. H. R. H. the Duke of Gloucester arrived, and inspected the Dock-yard.—Wednesday, 20. A general fast strictly observed.—November 4. Grand military review and sham fight by the troops and volunteers, before H. R. H. the Duke of Cumberland.—November 11. The trade of the town completely stopped for the want of small coin.—June 4, 1804. Grand review on Portsdown Hill, and the cannon on the platform fired by Capt. Arnaud's Volunteers.—June 13. The Duke of Cambridge arrived here, and on the next day reviewed the troops on Portsdown Hill, and afterwards the militias on Southsea Common.—December 31. The troops in the Garrison reviewed by the Duke of Cumberland.

1805, January 1. First opening of the Hampshire Library at Mr. Turner's, St. George's-square, Portsea; Sir John Carter, President.—January 28. A carriage carrying twelve persons without horses, was run on the Mile-end road, to the satisfaction and delight of all.—July 6. By the exertions of N. Diddams, Esq. builder, of this Dock-yard, and his assistants, H. M. ship Defiance, of 74 guns, was taken out of dock, the water in the basin having been taken out of the harbour (eleven feet in one hour and three quarters, by means of a steam engine). The Gibraltar, of 80 guns, was immediately afterwards taken in, and if this had not been resorted to, they must have remained till spring-tides.—Great anxiety at this time respecting Lord Nelson and the fleet.—August, Thursday 15. H. R. Highness the Princess of Wales visited the port, and took shelter from a severe storm in the house of Mrs. Wilkes. August. The ship on the top of the church taken down and repaired.—Sept. 14. Lord Nelson arrived at the George inn at six o'clock in the morning, and shortly after went on Southsea beach and embarked on board the Victory. He was followed by crowds of people, and received the last cheers from his native land on these shores. —Thursday, Nov. 7. Great rejoicings and illuminations for

Nelson's victory. Addresses to the King for such.—Wednesday, December 4. Arrived the Victory at Spithead, with the remains of Lord Nelson.—1806. Admiral Markham and David Montague Erskine, Esq. returned for the borough.—The First Lord of the Admiralty for the time being appointed Governor of the Naval College, and thirty pupils added to the establishment.—April. H. M. ship Vigilant, which sunk at her moorings, raised and brought into dock.—The Dukes of York, Cambridge, and Cumberland, inspect the troops and fortifications: a large camp on Southsea Common.—Nov. Sir Thomas Miller, Bart. elected M.P. for Portsmouth.—1807. Mr. Sibly, the eminent musician, elected organist to St. Thomas's church.—Ladies' Benevolent Society established.—1809. The system of education for the superior class of shipwrights established at the Royal Naval College.—Immense bodies of troops embark for Portugal.—1811, May. Magnificent obsequies (according to the Catholic faith) of Count Aimable Rufin, French General, who died on board the Gorgon of his wounds; the Rev. F. De la Rue officiating, all the troops in the Garrison attending, and the cannon firing minute guns.—July. Earl Harcourt appointed Governor of Portsmouth.—Charges preferred against Mr. Maybee and Sir George Grey, by the Rev. Dr. Scott of the Dock Chapel, for a violation of the Conventicle Act of 1670; Mr. Maybee fully acquitted, it being merely a Sunday school meeting, and the charge against Sir G. Grey withdrawn.—A smart shock of an earthquake felt.—The Admiralty displeased at the expenses of the dock: notice given that no farther Treasury supplies could be granted.—August. Arrived the Algerine ambassador.—The Prince of Orange visits the Port.—Several fine cream-coloured bulls landed here from Spain, as a present to Lord Castlereagh.—Sept. Splendid masquerade at the Government-house, given by Sir Home Popham. —The Farlington Water brought into the town on Saturday afternoon, September 28.—Thomas Croxton declares that he had netted 17,000*l.* for the site of Croxton town, which in 1711 sold for one hundred pounds.—1812, January. A lad killed in the theatre by falling from the gallery into the pit.—The Corporation grant land for the Lancasterian school in the White Swan

Field, very liberal sums being subscribed for its erection. —Feb. Bell's school established.—March 23. Foundation stone of King-street Chapel laid by Rev. J. Griffin.—April. The crew of the Impregnable paid 20,000*l.* prize money.—The Ferry Act passed.—Nearly one thousand pounds subscribed for the relief of the sufferers by wreck in the Baltic.—May. The Corporation address the King on the assassination of Mr. Perceval.—Mr. Fincham appointed preceptor to the School of Naval Architecture. —Dr. Lloyd, Hebrew Professor at Cambridge, appointed Chaplain to Haslar, vice the Rev. J. Hall.—June. The Count de Lille (Louis XVIII.), attended by the Duc Duvre, Viscount Dogoult, and the Count de Blacas, arrived on Monday night, from Stowe, in Buckinghamshire. The next day the Count viewed the Dock-yard and Fortifications; on the following day honoured Capt. Graham Moore with his company at breakfast on board the Chatham, 74, at Spithead; thence made a tour of the Isle of Wight, slept at Newport, and returned in the Hon. Commissioner Grey's yacht on Thursday. Every attention was shown to these noble visitants whilst here. Generals Whetham and Fisher, Sir R. Bickerton, the Hon. Commissioner Grey, with the Staff and Heads of Departments, dined with the Count de Lille on Tuesday, when a very sumptuous entertainment was provided.—1813. Splendid funeral, in the Garrison Church, of Lieut.-Gen. Arthur Whetham, Lieut.-Governor of the Garrison.—March. Survey of Southsea Castle, preparatory to its being rebuilt.

June 1813. In a committee of supply, Parliament vote 90,000*l.* for fortifications at Hilsea and Portsmouth. The following extract relative to a like grant in 1758-9, may possibly be considered curious at this period: "' Government purchase sixteen acres, three roods, and twenty rods of marsh land, near Portsea lake, called the Great Marsh, from William Pike, Esq.; and also certain pasture lands, gardens and cottages, near the same; and also ninety-five acres, one rood and eight rods, part of a marsh called Hilsea Green, in the parish of Wymering; also sixteen acres, two roods and twenty-three rods of land, called Breach, and certain garden ground lands; a tenement called Griffin's Tenement; barn and yard in the posses-

sion of William Watmore; also two acres, three roods, thirty-one rods, part of a close called Moor Close or Morrice Close; also two acres, three roods and one rod, part of a close called Hambrook; also one acre, three roods, and twenty rods, part of a close called Haven's Croft,—the last three pieces of land being in Portsea, near the Fortifications of Portsmouth; also three pieces of furze land, containing twenty-five acres, three roods, sixteen perches, and two pieces of arable land, in extent fourteen acres, two roods and two perches, all which are on the north side of Forton lake, near Gosport. The value of the property was vested in twenty-four gentlemen of Hants, and the following items occur: "2443*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* for defraying charges incurred by an act of the thirty-first Geo. II. 1759; supplies for Portsmouth, 6937*l.* 13*s.* 7½*d.* and 10,000*l.* for the erection of Haslar Hospital, for the year 1760; and 634*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.* for interest on 23,800*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.* remaining in the Office of Ordnance, but as yet unapplied according to the act of parliament."

June 12, 1813. The Royal William, 80, Admiral Sir Richard Bickerton, which had borne the flags of the successive commanders-in-chief of this port so many years, proves at length so leaky, that she is ordered into the harbour to be paid off. She was the oldest-built ship in his Majesty's service. This venerable ship came into harbour on Wednesday, June 23, and was taken into dock on the 17th of July. July 24. "The long services of the Royal William, protracted beyond those of any other ship ever built, came to an end. She was examined in dock, when her timbers proved so generally defective, that she was ordered to be broken up. It cannot be ascertained, at this port, when this memorable ship was first built. It is recorded of her that she came into harbour on the 2d day of October, 1679, to be laid up in ordinary; went out on the 16th day of March, 1700; came in again on the 26th of July, 1702; was ordered on the 31st of July, 1714, to be taken to pieces, for the purpose of being re-built; and was undocked on the 3d of September, 1719. Particular orders were given to report on the appearance of her timbers, when she was taken to pieces, to account, if possible, for her unusual duration; to observe if they have been charred or

snail drawn (as, it is presumed, was the practice when she was built); and whether there appeared to be any effects in them from any oxygenated matter; or on any other parts of her, from such a cause."—Saturday, July 31. The shipwrights commenced breaking up the Royal William this morning.

August, 1813. The artificers and labourers of the Dock ordered to be paid weekly, instead of quarterly.

Sept. 11. The spacious new Chapel, erected in King-street, Portsea, for the religious worship of the congregation of the Rev. J. Griffin, opened on Wednesday. The Rev. W. Jay, of Bath, and the Rev. Rowland Hill, of Surrey Chapel, preached sermons on the occasion; after which upwards of 350*l.* were collected in aid of the funds of the Chapel. The Hampshire Association of Independent Ministers, for sending teachers into villages that are destitute of religious instruction, was held the next day: the Rev. D. Bogue preached: 62*l.* were collected. A meeting of Sunday School teachers of poor children was held in the morning, at the Old Chapel, in Orange-street; and after their business was transacted, upwards of a thousand teachers and their friends breakfasted together in the Chapel; the Rev. Mr. Johnson, of Farnham, in the chair: the company afterwards subscribed 20*l.* to promote the cause. The most striking circumstance at this meeting was, the son of the late Touissant L'Overture, Governor of St. Domingo, who had embraced Christianity with a degree of warmth proportionate to its importance, addressed the persons present. A company of about a hundred persons (including about sixty Dissenting Ministers) dined together at the Fountain Inn, in this town. It was estimated there were at least four thousand persons in and round the Chapel: several hundreds went away, unable to obtain admittance."

Tuesday, Sept. 3. A very numerous meeting of the inhabitants of Portsea at the Parish Church, Kingston, to consider upon the necessity and propriety of building a new Parish Church, or of enlarging and repairing the present one. Sir Roger Curtis, Bart. stated to the meeting his reasons for recommending that a new church should be built, which were, principally, the decayed state of the present one, and its incompetency to afford

accommodation to the inhabitants. Mr. Soaper replied: he thought the increase of population did call for an increase of accommodation for religious worship; but he thought the more eligible proposition to entertain would be, to erect a new Church (a Chapel of Ease) in the more populous part of the parish, and not upon the spot of the present church, at such a distance from the abodes of the mass of the parishioners; he thought also, the present church sufficiently large for the inhabitants by which it was surrounded. The questions being put were decided against by nearly the whole of the persons present.

Sept. 21, 1813. The office of Mayor of this borough contested—a circumstance that had not taken place since 1775. The rival candidates then were the late Edward Linzee, Esq. and the late John Carter, Esq. The Rev. George Cuthbert and James Carter, Esq. were the candidates at this time. Considerable local interest was excited, as a contested election for the office was an uncommon circumstance; and the present, it was generally considered, involved a more interesting question, namely, whether the patronage of this borough should remain in the same hands that it had for nearly forty years, or be divided with one of the candidates on the present occasion. James Carter, Esq. was elected.

December 18, 1813. The Right Hon. William Scott, Judge of the Admiralty Court, appointed Moses Greetham, Esq. and George Lamburn Greetham, Esq. to be his Deputies to take cognizance of wreck of the sea, great and small, and of the death, drowning, and view of dead bodies, of all persons whatsoever, in the sea or public rivers, ports, freshwaters or creeks whatsoever, within the flowing of the sea and high-water mark, throughout the Isle of Wight and County of Southampton, and Maritime ports of the same, and thereto adjoining, and within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty; together with the custody and conservation of the statutes concerning wreck of the sea; and the office of Coroner, made in the reign of Edward I.

Very important trials in the Exchequer, and appeals to the House of Lords, at this time; viz. Parmeter v. the Attorney-General, &c. The merchants of Gosport had erections upon what are called the Mud Lands

of the Harbour, held under various leases; and the Lord Chancellor intimated, that in whatever instance such erections could be proved to be a nuisance, or injury to the harbour, they must be removed at the individuals' expense; but where possession could be shown for sixty years, and the premises proved not to be a nuisance, he might, in such case, consider the grant, or lease, valid; but if a nuisance, then the erections must be removed at the public's expense. From a grant made by Charles I. the inhabitants of Gosport had certain privileges in all mud lands between high and low water, on the whole coast of Hampshire, excepting only the liberties of the Corporate body of Portsmouth. Upon the validity of this grant, Messrs. Parmeter built a dock, between twenty and thirty years since, which projected into the harbour; and wharfs, timber-yards, &c. had been erected by other merchants in a similar manner. Some of these buildings had been of late years deemed encroachments upon the public right, and an injury to the navigation of the harbour, by decreasing the quantity of space to be filled with the tide, and thereby contributing to choke it up. Mr. Parmeter's case was ten years under judicial proceeding. By a decision of the Exchequer, Mr. Page of Gosport was also deprived of his wharf, and subjected to the expense of its removal.

Court of Exchequer. The Attorney-General v. William Carver and Brownlow, Bishop of Winchester. This was a trial at law, on an issue directed to try the question, whether certain premises held by the defendant, Carver, under the Bishop of Winchester, on the western side of the entrance to Portsmouth harbour, were or were not a public nuisance, by obstructing the eflux and reflux of the tide, whereby sand banks were formed, and the harbour otherwise injured. For the more satisfactory determination of this question, the decision of which was of great importance, the trial was ordered to take place before the four Barons of the Exchequer. The Chief Baron, in the entire absence of any evidence, other than that of opinion, to prove the fact of the damage accruing to the harbour from Carver's wharf, advised the plaintiff's counsel to accept a nonsuit. The plaintiff was accordingly nonsuited.

March 23, 1814. The American frigate 'President'

brought into the harbour by her captor, the Endymion. —August 23. First public meeting in Portsmouth relative to the canal.—1815, July 9. The Duchess D'Angoulême embarks here for Bordeaux, with a large suite.—Four hundred and five midshipmen promoted to the rank of lieutenant, this month.—Subscription for the relief of the wounded soldiers, widows, &c. after the battle of Waterloo; 776*l.* collected in the towns. —November 8. The foundation-stone of the New College to be erected in this Dock-yard, for the educating the superior class of Shipwrights' apprentices, laid. The stone bore the inscription "Laid under the inspection of the Hon. Sir George Grey, Bart. and Henry Hull, Esq. architect."—Messrs. Soaper, Howard, and Poulden, institute a suit against the canons of Christ Church, relative to the Portsmouth Free Grammar School.—Rev. S. Leggatt appointed chaplain to the garrison.—December 23. Saving Bank first established.—General Fisher, commandant of Engineers, dies.—1816, January. The Austrian Archdukes and suite visit the arsenal.—February. Order of the Admiralty for all midshipmen and mates to pass their examination at the Royal Naval College.—March. Three hundred artificers discharged from his Majesty's dock.—Dock-mill society formed.—Ten thousand pounds voted for building the school of Naval Architecture. —Thirty ships at this port ordered to be broken up, and all the telegraphs in the neighbourhood abolished.—June. Board of Ordnance grant permission for the erection of bathing-rooms on Portsmouth beach.—July. Lord Exmouth embarks here in his Majesty's ship Queen Charlotte; and the fleet against Algiers sailed from St. Helen's, July 24th.—August. Great distress in the towns. In Portsea parish alone, the paupers increased to upwards of 600 residents in the poor-house; 3276 out of it. The greater part of the latter number were, until lately, contributors to parish relief, and not the abject suppliants of it. In Portsmouth parish, the number rose to 600 persons; so that, within the two parishes, not less than 4500 persons receive eleemosinary aid.—September. Duke and Duchess of Orleans visit the port.—Arrived the Portuguese frigate Perola, Captain Monteire, from Lisbon, having on board Count Palmella, appointed Ambassador to this

country. His Excellency landed under a salute, and set off for London. The Perola brought fifty-five cases of silver plate, a present from the King of Portugal to his Grace the Duke of Wellington. The present consisted of a table service for fifty-five persons, with a variety of vases and temples, for a banquet, bearing most rich and superb allegorical representations of his Grace's victories. The bullion alone cost 200,000*l.* and the first artists in Europe had been these two years variously engaged in the workmanship of it.—October. The Queen Charlotte returns from Algiers—came into the port amidst the reiterated cheers of the mariners and inhabitants: Lord Exmouth landed, and was most enthusiastically received. —Wednesday, 9th of October. John Carter, Esq. unanimously elected M.P. for this his native town.—A tumulus opened on Portsdown-hill.—November 2. The Royal Marines at head-quarters commenced their duty at the Dock-yard, in consequence of the reduction of the troops in the Garrison.—Order for dismounting the cannon of the Portsea and Gosport fortifications, and from Block-house fort.—Saturday, November 9. The bathing-rooms at Southsea levelled to the ground by the violence of the sea.—The colours of the 36th regiment consecrated in the Church of the Garrison, by the Rev. Samuel Leggatt. —Died on November 14, at Gatcombe, the gallant Sir Roger Curtis, Bart. G.C.B. 22. Buried with much honour at Catherington.—Portsea barracks ordered to be sold.

The stockading of the Glacis of Southsea being under repair, a human skull and other bones dug up near the bathing machines. They lay scarcely two inches below the surface, and supposed to be the bones of one Williams, a serjeant of marines, who was executed in the year 1768, for the murder of a man of some consideration and property, near the public-house called the Battle of Minden, near Hilsea. Williams was tried at Winchester, and convicted upon the evidence of an accomplice, Serjeant Grant, also of the marines. Williams, it appeared, shot the man off his horse, and plundered him of his watch, which led to the discovery of his crime. He was sentenced to be gibbeted, which accordingly took place near the bathing machines; but a short time afterwards

the body was clandestinely taken down from the gibbet, and, it was conjectured, buried by the marines of the division, with whom Williams was a favourite before he committed the crime for which he suffered.

1817, February. Bill introduced into Parliament, received the Royal assent on July 10, for the Portsmouth canal, the estimated expense being as follows:

Making the Canal from Eastney Lake to the Halfway-houses.

	£
To cutting from Eastney Lake to the head of the second Lock - - -	1163
To ditto to the Basin at Portsea - -	2238
To two Locks - - - -	4600
To three Road Bridges, and six occupation ditto	2680
To forming and fencing the Towing Path -	583
To Steam Engine, including the building -	2452
To Basin and Contingencies - - -	3102
	16,818

February, 1817. Between four and five thousand persons assembled on Portsdown-hill, in consequence of Mr. Cobbett's public advertisement, to agree to a petition for a Reform in the Commons House of Parliament, &c. Mr. Cobbett and Lord Cochrane addressed the meeting. Mr. Goldsmith (a farmer) being called by Mr. Cobbett to fill the chair, Mr. C. then entered on the subject of the day. Mr. Hinxman (a farmer) seconded the motion that the same be adopted as the petition of that Meeting. Lord Cochrane next addressed the spectators at considerable length, and the assemblage (which was composed principally of persons from the country, and of the lowest orders of society) then dispersed in the most quiet and commendable manner. Lord C. presented the petition to the House on Tuesday evening, remarking, the meeting was numerously and respectably attended—20,000 persons! which would have been increased to 100,000, had not the great guns on the batteries been loaded, and Portsmouth placed in a military attitude, as though it were besieged!—The Grand Duke Nicholas of Russia visits this port.—Addresses to the Regent on the outrage offered to his person on returning from Parliament.—March. Samuel Spicer, Esq. knighted by the

gent on presenting the address at Carlton House. e rolls of parchment made fifteen yards in length. Union Pension Society established. Six thousand five ndred pounds given in relief to the poor of Portsea, so at was the state of distress.—Ancient manuscript re- ive to God's House, said to be discovered.—A second leton found in the barrow on Portsdown-hill.—May. A naphore erected on the platform.—Twenty thousand ibs landed here in one season from the Isle of Wight.— great number of Italian nobles visit the arsenal.—Died Tuesday, June 17, at his house at Portsea, after a gth of insuperable suffering, at a very advanced and nourable old age, John Godwin, Esq. banker, who by bity of conduct and purity of heart, raised a deathless ne, rescued from the dark oblivion of the grave, and a cedent productive of the praises of posterity. Mr. G. s the father of this corporation: he was made a bur- s in the year 1763, alderman in 1778, and served the ce of mayor seven times.—September 17. The news of Portsmouth paper printed on a new type (an entire nt cast for it,) from the foundry of Mr. Fry, Letter under to his Majesty; and the title made more appro- ate to its extended circulation.—Regulations relative the scholars of the Naval College altered, fifty scholar- ps only to be free.—October. Auxiliary Bible Society nded.—November. The day of the funeral of the ncess Charlotte observed here with the deepest solem- y, every soldier in the Garrison being in military urning; and addresses of condolence sent from all ties to the Regent, and the Prince of Coburg.—De- nber. A large Russian fleet at Spithead, under Admi- Von Muller.—1818, March. Kean first played at this eatre.—Wednesday, a tremendous gale of wind. The ole Island nearly inundated, the sea rising five feet ove its usual level. The devastation to the public works imated at 8748*l.* 19*s.* 5¾*d.*; no like convulsion of the had occurred here for forty-three years.—April. Miss Neil played three nights at our Theatre.—A handsome ce of plate presented by the parishioners of Ports- uth, to the Rev. John Garrett Bussell, A.M. Rector of afford, their late Curate, "In testimony of the high ise they entertain of the exemplary zeal and uniform

punctuality with which he performed the arduous duties of the parish during a residence of twenty-one years."—May. Prince of Hesse Homberg arrives here; also the reigning Prince of Schomberg Lippe.—One thousand six hundred persons confirmed in St. Thomas' church, by the Bishop of Oxford.—Sir George Cockburn elected M.P. for the Borough; extraordinary festivities on the occasion.—His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester sails from Spithead for Brest.—On Monday night, September 7, the remains of Commodore Sir James Lucas Yeo, K.C.B. were brought on shore from the Semiramis, to the George Inn; whence they were removed the next morning, with the funeral honours due to his rank, and interred in the burial ground of the Garrison Church.—The Grand Duke Michael of Russia visits the port and arsenal.

November 10. The long-established bank of Godwin & Co. stopped payment. Seven Extents issued against the firm by the Crown. The debt due to the estate of the late John Godwin, Esq. 46,000*l.* The issue of notes out 90,000*l.*: it was 150,000*l.* in the war.

	£	s.	d.
Excise - - - -	19,945	12	9
Customs - - - -	4,088	0	0
Receiver-General of Taxes - -	14,973	0	6
Storekeeper of the Victualling-office -	412	19	0
Storekeeper-General - -	340	0	0
Extent in aid on account of Clarke, Sewell, and Hearn - - -	299	0	0

Cash remaining in the Bank	338	15	3
Bank of England and other Bank Notes - -	2463	10	0
Bills and Acceptances at short dates - -	10,880	10	3

Besides these amounts, the Estate had in hand, in London,—

Exchequer Bills - -	10,000	0	0
Drafts, &c. - - -	7,862	0	0

By this event, public credit was shaken to its very base; property to an immense amount changed possessors, and years have not repaired the mischief.

January 4, 1819. The Grand Duke Maximilian of Austria and suite, on a tour of curiosity, arrived here, and in-

spected the different public works. Passing through the Rope-house, an unfortunate circumstance occurred to General Count Hardigg, one of the suite, which was likely to have had a most serious result. The Rope-makers being employed making a cable, the Count felt his curiosity greatly excited by tracing the operation of the yarn which designates the cable as being the King's property; when, unthinkingly, he put his hand upon the strands, looked the same moment toward an object in another direction, and the strands, as they went round, drew in his fingers and hand. An instant call out to stop the machinery was as promptly obeyed, or his hand and arm would probably have been twisted off. His fingers were crushed, the back of his hand was torn up, and his shoulder was a little strained. The Grand Duke gave 50*l.* to be distributed to the workmen of the Dock-yard, and put about 17*l.* into the charity boxes, for the widows of men who have lost their lives by accidents whilst employed in the yard. On Wednesday morning, the Grand Duke attended mass, at the Catholic Chapel, Portsea; and afterwards visited the ships in the harbour, and the Royal Hospital at Haslar, and dined with Admiral Sir George Campbell, K.C.B. at the Admiralty-house.

On Thursday, January 14, 1819, two fishermen of this place being at St. Helen's, herring catching, with a drift net, caught a very large female Porpoise (of the species Delphinus Phocæna), and its young one: it measured ten feet eleven inches in length, six feet round, and weighed ten or eleven cwt.: it had eighty-four teeth.—March 1. Five hundred persons emigrate from Portsea to America.—22. Ordnance estimates, Portsmouth and Gosport 8000*l.* Navy estimate to build a roof over a ship, 6600*l.*—April. Naval and Military Bible Society established.—August 9. The Prince Regent visits Portsmouth, and again in September.

On Monday, August 25, 1819, a Jury, summoned by George Hollis, Esq. Under-sheriff of the County, met at the George Inn, and on the two subsequent days at the Sessions-room, to award to several proprietors of land, compensation for such portions of their land as are required for continuing on the Portsmouth and Arundel Canal, from Milton to the Halfway-houses. Mr. Serjeant Pell and

Mr. Missing conducted the cases for the Canal Proprietors; Mr. Chitty and Mr. Carter, for the Land Proprietors. The following are the awards, which amounted, we understand, to about one-fourth more than the Canal Proprietors had offered to purchase at by private treaty; but is very considerably less than the respective Proprietors had demanded:—Miss White 1110*l.* Messrs J. Goldsmith 1100*l.* S. Goldsmith 475*l.* Morey 500*l.* Temple 1450*l.* T. B. Higgins, 315*l.* Ridge, 270*l.* Dunning 315*l.* Lipscomb 45*l.* Hancock 105*l.* Badcock 135*l.* Blacker 300*l.* Feltham (exchanged), The Corporation, 6*l.* 15*s.*

Sept. 13, 1820. Foundation-stone of St. Paul's Church laid by Dr. Gauntlett and Sir S. Spicer.—Sept. 18. His Majesty arrived at Spithead for the first time since his accession, landed at the Sallyport, received the congratulations of the people, bestowed the honour of knighthood on Sir George Garrett, and slept on board his yacht in the harbour.—Address to Queen Caroline from the towns, signed by 11,500 persons.—The Corporation address the King, praying for the dismissal of his Ministers.—1821. Splendid funeral procession of Sir G. Campbell (Admiral of the Port) to the Royal Church of the Garrison; all the houses closed, and the streets filled with naval, military, civil officers, and inhabitants, in procession.—Pedestal in St. George's Square presented by Messrs. Barlow.—His Majesty's coronation celebrated here; all business suspended; a holiday at all the public departments; balls and dinners in all the various circles of life; dinners to the different charity children; and the day devoted to pleasure and amusement.—August. His Majesty embarks here for Ireland.—Count Bertrand and the suite of the late Napoleon Bonaparte land from St. Helen's: the son of Count Bertrand alarmed at the sight of the battlements and soldiers, and refused to leave the boat till pacified by the kindness of the sailors.—Sept. 1. The Regatta first established.

Sept. 11. Died Mr. James Hay, F.L.S. statuary, of Portsea. He was engaged from early youth in the pursuits of natural history, and his knowledge of mineralogy, botany, zoology, and more especially conchology, was very extensive: he was also a most industrious and persevering collector of articles connected with his pursuits, and had formed an interesting and valuable museum of rare and

curious specimens, arranged with great neatness and taste. It was considered the best private collection in the kingdom. He had for many years the honour of being a member of the Linnean Society, and was a short time before his death, elected an honorary member of the West of England Geological Society. Mr. Hay was one of the oldest burgesses of the borough, as well as almost the oldest inhabitant of Portsea. His taste and judgment in the arts and statuary was also much esteemed. His museum was exhibited for a long time after his decease to numbers of cognoscenti, and was sold by auction at the old Town Hall for a considerable sum, on June 3d, 1822. Many of the specimens now adorn the museum of the Portsmouth Institution. We have in our possession a catalogue of the contents of Mr. Hay's museum, containing shells, fossils, drawings, minerals, British mosses, corallines, reptiles, birds, fish, plaster casts, zoophytes, specimens of woods, marbles, gems, coins, models, books, volcanic productions, and an infinite variety of miscellaneous articles.

1822, January 25. The Rev. William Stevens Dusautoy, Clerk, unanimously nominated and presented to the perpetual curacy of St. John's Chapel, Portsea, by the proprietors thereof; and was also appointed Lecturer of the said Chapel; both void by the death of the late Rev. William Howell.—Feb. Navy Estimates: Dock-yard, 48,083*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.* 1821, 49,183*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*: Naval College, 1821, 6926*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.* 1822, 6695*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*—March 20. On Wednesday the foundation-stone was laid for the erection of the Marine Officers' new Barracks, by Mr. Honeybourn, the contractor and builder: The various coins of his Majesty George IV.'s reign were deposited therein: The ceremony was numerously attended.—April 17. On Tuesday, a new Independent Chapel was opened for Divine worship, at Buckland; three-fourths of the expense of the building contributed by the congregation of King-street.—On Tuesday, May 8, the foundation-stone of a new Chapel laid in Lake-lane, Portsea, for the use of the Baptist Church recently formed there. On Wednesday, August 10, the new Chapel in Lake-lane was opened for public worship, when suitable sermons were preached in the morning by the Rev. D. Miall, of Portsea, and the Rev. Dr. Draper, of Southampton, and in the evening by the Rev. Mr.

Bulgin, of Poole, to very large and attentive congregations.—October. The celebrated Marriage Act read in St. Thomas's Church.—The Unitarian Chapel, in High-street, which had been several months undergoing extensive repairs, was re-opened for public worship on Sunday, the 27th of November.—1823, January. The Portsmouth Grammar-school, on Dr. Smith's foundation, re-opened, after a lapse of many years; Mr. Naylor appointed Second Master: fifty boys appointed scholars by the Dean and Canons of Christchurch, Oxford, on the 15th instant. —February. The remaining part of Hilsea Barracks taken down, and the materials sold.

April, 1823. A meeting of the inhabitants of Portsmouth and Portsea, to take into consideration a Bill which had been presented to the House of Commons, by some persons in the neighbourhood of Emsworth, purporting to be for regulating the Oyster Fisheries in Langston and Chichester Harbours, but which was pregnant with great evil to that numerous, industrious, and valuable race of men who live by the hazardous and precarious occupation of fishing. It was a sufficient cause of opposition, that the measure had been entered on without the least consultation with the most numerous portion of the parties interested. A notice had appeared in the newspapers, of some proposed Act for establishing a Fishing Company at Emsworth and the Sussex coast; but this was an Act, endeavoured to be smuggled through Parliament, affecting a large portion of the coast of Hampshire, inasmuch as that it proposed "that the lords and ladies of manors should be erected into a body of Commissioners, without whose licence none else should fish in those seas," which have hitherto been open to all the King's subjects; and moreover, that the poor oyster-dredger should not only pay for his licence, but also a duty per bushel on his fish; and, to crown the whole (and this, indeed, was the point most insisted on by the promoters of the measure), none but open 14-feet boats were to be used; or, in other words, no Portsmouth or Gosport fisherman was to enter Langstone or Chichester Harbours; for the length and difficulty of the passage is such, that none would attempt it in such a boat. It was urged by Mr. Lang, Mr. Hewett, and other gentlemen, that the adoption of the measure would im-

mediately throw a number of industrious men upon the parish books; and the prohibition against the use of decked vessels, would destroy a useful nursery for seamen, since each such vessel generally carried one or two boys, who were thus trained to naval skill and hardihood, and for whom applications were continually being made to the overseers of parishes by the masters of such vessels for apprentices. It was determined that the principle of the Bill should be opposed by a Petition to Parliament, as by it the giving to a few persons valuable manorial rights would most grievously injure and do injustice to a great body of the deserving poor.

"To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

"The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Parishes of Portsmouth and Portsea, in the county of Southampton,

Sheweth,

"That a Bill is depending in your honourable House, entitled "A Bill for the better Regulating and Improving the Fisheries in the Arm of the Sea, which is situate between the Island of Portsea, in the county of Southampton, and West Wittering Point, in the parish of West Wittering, in the county of Sussex.

"That the said Bill, if passed into a Law, will entirely deprive the fishermen of Portsmouth, Portsea, and other places adjacent, of their invariably ancient, undoubted, and accustomed right of fishing in the said arm of the sea and harbour, to the positive ruin of them and their families.

"That the said Bill is in principle contrary to the common law of the realm, and will be highly detrimental to the rearing of seamen, and consequently prejudicial to the welfare of the nation.

"Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your honourable House will take the same into your consideration, and that the said Bill may not pass into a Law."

The bill was committed on Tuesday, and the report was brought up on Thursday, when Mr. Carter presented Petitions from Portsmouth and Gosport against the Bill, signed by about 1500 persons, and argued most ably

against the third reading, that, if this Bill were passed into a law, it would go to deprive a number of his Majesty's subjects of a privilege to which they were all entitled, by rendering it necessary, in order to fish in that harbour, to obtain leave of particular individuals—the lords of adjacent manors; and also confining them to boats of certain dimensions, which were unfit for the purposes of fishing.—The Attorney-General stated, his attention to the measure had been drawn by the arguments of the Hon. Member for Portsmouth, and on looking hastily over the Bill, he saw several objections to it, as being inimical to private and public interests, and moved that the third reading be postponed to next Thursday. This was agreed to, and the Petitions were ordered to be printed.—An opportunity thus offered for the Fishing interests of Southampton, Lymington, the Isle of Wight, Hastings, and other Eastern ports, to petition against this most extensively injurious measure, was followed by all the towns on the coast.

Mr. Poyntz moved the third reading of the Emsworth and Langstone Fishery Bill, saying, that he intended to strike out the clause respecting the size of the boats.—Mr. Bernal opposed the provisions which went to restrain the public from Fishing in the sea unless they first obtained a licence from certain trustees, and moved, as an amendment, that instead of now, the Bill should be read a third time this day six months —Mr. Poyntz defended the measure, which he considered as being a Bill for the preservation of fish, and not a Bill of exclusion.—The Attorney-General protested against the principle of the Bill, as an infringement on public rights, and contended that this was an open fishery in an open sea, and he would not, therefore, sanction the passing of this Act, which would limit the fishery to a few privileged individuals. He thought the proposed licensing of the boats, by the lords of the manors, as decidedly objectionable.—Sir I. Coffin could not see how this Bill could pass in its present state. It went to make that private, which had been a public fishery from time immemorial. He himself remembered fishing there forty years ago. He thought this had been a Bill to preserve the oyster-beds, but not to make them private property.—Mr. Wm. Smith

spoke warmly against the principle of the bill.—Mr. Hurst supported the bill; the only object of which, he said, was, to encourage the fisheries, and all the proceedings of the bill, as he understood, were perfectly regular.—Mr. Sykes strongly opposed the Bill.—Mr. Huskisson had been requested to bring in a bill on this subject, but had not complied, as he had some doubts of the expediency of doing so; but, at the same time, he considered it a great hardship that foreigners, from the eastward, should come to those shores, and carry off, by their mode of dredging, not the mature fish, but the infant oyster—in such a state, that it must be preserved elsewhere, for a time, before it could be fit for consumption. This was an evil which ought to be remedied, but it could not be done by a local bill, which would throw out of employ from 100 to 200 fishermen, and confer a right on individuals to which he could not see they were entitled. If the present bill were withdrawn (which he recommended Mr. Poyntz to do), and a general bill introduced, he should be ready to give it his support.—Sir William de Crespigny strenuously opposed the whole of the provisions of the bill, which he considered as nothing else but a job. The House then divided—against the bill, 97; for it, 39; majority, 58.

Thus was this obnoxious bill, which was, in fact, for the exclusion of every person from fishing in Langstone and Chichester harbours without a licence from the lords of manors, or proprietors of property, near the shores of those places, with the farther grievous imposition of a duty on all fish caught under such licensing,—by zealous, well-directed means, defeated. The proceedings on the bill, in the House of Commons, were read with interest, and with feelings of gratitude by the numerous poor fishermen and their families, whom this measure would have involved in so much difficulty and hapless poverty; indeed, the town at large was greatly benefited, inasmuch as it was relieved from apprehensions of what would have greatly increased the burthen of its poor-rates. The kindly, generous, and zealous conduct of the Corporation of the Borough in this case (particularly of our much-esteemed townsman and representative, John Carter, Esq. who devoted him-

self to the subject, from the commencement) must not pass unnoticed.

"At a meeting of the Committee appointed to oppose the Emsworth Fishery bill, held at the Old Town-hall, Portsmouth, 9th May, 1823,—D. Howard, Esq. in the chair.

"Resolved,—That the thanks of this meeting be given to John Carter, Esq. Admiral Markham, C. P. Jervoise, Esq. Sir Leonard Holmes, Sir William de Crespigny, the Hon. C. A. Pelham, and the other members of the House of Commons, who so zealously and effectually opposed the third reading of the said bill.

"Resolved,—That it is the opinion of this Committee that the parishes of Portsmouth and Portsea are pre-eminently indebted to Messrs. Lang and Hewett, for their active and zealous exertions in opposing the said bill.

"Resolved,—That the thanks of this Committee be given to Thomas Heather, Esq. for his effectual assistance to the deputation in London.

"D. Howard, Chairman."

1823, June. Portsmouth branch of the Royal Naval Annuitant Society established.—His Serene Highness the Duke Charles Bernard of Saxe Weimar (second son of the reigning Grand Duke Charles), attended by his Aides-de-camp, Majors Foriade and Auguste Grenier, arrived at the Fountain inn, to view the Dock-yard.—Mr. W. Kingston, master Mill-wright of this Dock-yard, received, through Baron Fagel, the Dutch Ambassador, a valuable ring, composed of a fine topaz set round with diamonds, from his Majesty the King of the Netherlands, as a testimony of the sense his Majesty entertained of Mr. Kingston's scientific skill and attention displayed to the Dutch Naval Commission in their visit to this Dock-yard.

July. Notices, signed by several of the most respectable inhabitants of this town, served on the resident Aldermen of the Borough, requiring them to oblige the non-resident Aldermen to reside within the Borough, and, in case of their not complying therewith, to remove them, and elect others in their stead, from among the Burgesses resident within the Borough. The object of

this measure was, to restore the practice (which existed for centuries) of confining Aldermen to the limitations prescribed in the charter; the principle of which was confirmed in the Court of King's Bench, Jan. 25th, 1777, in the case of Rex v. Monday, (vide Cowper's Reports,) wherein Lord Mansfield laid down the dictum, that it was obligatory upon the Aldermen to reside within the Borough, saying, "We all know that in some boroughs residence is a precedent qualification. In fifty others it is not. Here it is not a precedent qualification for a burgess to be elected an alderman. All the charter requires is, that after he is elected, he shall be resident."

October. A beaked whale was discovered to have found its way into Portsmouth harbour on Thursday, just before the thunder-storm which happened on that afternoon. It went up Haslar-lake, where, on the ebb of the tide, it was left in a hole excavated for laying up the Rev. C. North's yacht, and was shortly afterwards discovered by some of the villagers of Alverstoke, who killed it and secured the carcase. It was twenty-four feet in length, and upwards of twelve feet in circumference, and required five horses to draw it on shore.—1824, February. Sir Humphrey Davy, the President of the Royal Society, and Sir Robert Seppings, Surveyor of the Navy, engaged three days at this Dock-yard in directing experiments made at the bottoms of the Samarang, 28, and Manly gun-brig, which were taken into dock for the purpose; likewise on four boats, coppered under their direction, with a view to ascertain, upon a large scale, the effect of the galvanic principle, which Sir Humphrey proposed to apply in a particular manner, for protecting the copper sheathing on ships' bottoms from corrosion, and, probably, from foulness. A deputation from the Portsmouth Philosophical Society waited on Sir Humphrey Davy, to thank him, in the name of the institution, for the many very important and useful discoveries which he had made in his scientific investigations. The gentlemen were highly pleased with their reception, which was most courteous. Sir Humphrey consented to become an Honorary Member, and expressed his readiness to serve the institution in any way in which it should be in his power to do so.—On Friday, April 19, died Lake Allen, Esq. of

the Inner Temple, a native of Portsmouth, author of an Antiquarian History of his native place, and many other pieces. He was a fine classical scholar, and possessed an extraordinary facility in the perusal of the various court texts used in ancient deeds, charters, &c. His constitution was uncommonly delicate, and his figure small, and it was principally through the care of his grandfather, Lake Taswell, Esq. an eminent medical character, that he attained manhood. He was interred on Saturday, in St. Thomas's church-yard, on the southern side of the chancel.—April. A new melo-dramatic play, called "Haroun Alompra," (from the pen of Mr. Henry Slight) produced at this Theatre with great magnificence of decoration and costume; and was received with the strongest marks of applause.—May. The premises of the late Wm. Turner, Esq. in the High-street, and in St. Thomas's-street, purchased by Government for the permanent accommodations, as lodging and mess-rooms for the officers and the Victualling-store on the New Gun-wharf converted to the use of the men, of the Royal Marine Artillery.—The boundaries of the parish of Portsmouth perambulated by the vicar (the Rev. Charles Brune Henville) and parish officers, accompanied by several of the inhabitants. The civic procession commenced at Point Beach, keeping round near the water's edge until their arrival at the Hot-walls; measuring 100 yards thence, the party then descended into the moat, which they traversed, keeping close to the southern and eastern walls; then ascending opposite the King's Mill, took in nearly the whole of the Gun-wharf, and thence proceeded to their detached part of the parish, situate at the Halfway-houses.—The churchwardens and overseers of the parish of Portsea perambulate the boundaries of the parish. They commenced accompanied by the Rev. R. H. Cumyns, the Rev. Robert Grant, Alexander Poulden, Esq. solicitor of the parish, &c. and went to Southsea Castle, kept along the beach until within one hundred yards of the Hot-walls, where they crossed the moat, ascended the battery, and proceeded along the covert-way close to the walls of the moat, and came out of the gate near St. Mary's-bridge; went on to within

ten yards of the lamp-post, crossed the road to the corner of the King's Mill, kept outside of the left archway, and entered the Gun-wharf, a very small part of which lies within the parish (the remainder being in Portsmouth), crossed the wall opposite the Wheat-sheaf public-house, and went into the Dock-yard, passed round the extreme parts of it, and proceeded by water from the north end thereof, to the New-buildings, then round the shores of Flathouse, Whaley Island, Stamshaw, and Tipner, and through some fields, which brought the procession at length into the turnpike-road, opposite Gatcomb-house, part of which estate lies within the parish; passed accordingly through it into the road which leads to Copnor, and went on as far as the road to the Great Salterns—down such road, round the shore, and came out by the Baffins Farm, closing at Southsea Castle.—Aug. His Grace the Duke of Wellington arrived here, and proceeded to the Dock-yard. His Grace afterwards took a hasty survey of the lines of the Garrison; during which a fine trait of military discipline was shown by a soldier of the Royal Marine Artillery, who, though the person of the Noble Duke had been pointed out to him, on seeing him advance upon the lines to look over into the ditch, instantly proceeded to warn the Master-general of the Ordnance off, and which order was as promptly obeyed as it was given.—Madame Catalani sang here at a grand Musical Festival in St. Paul's church, and presented a silver vase to be sailed for at the Regatta.—Sept. His Majesty's ship Blonde, Captain Lord Byron, sailed from Spithead, having on board the bodies of the King and Queen of the Sandwich Islands, who had landed here a few months previous.—October 24. The Lord Bishop of Jamaica preached at St. Thomas' church.—Mr. Bonnycastle, one of the students in the School of Naval Architecture, appointed Professor of Natural Philosophy to a New College in Virginia, United States. He forfeited a fine of 500*l.* for forsaking the British service, after having obtained his education in it.—Nov. A dreadful storm here; several ships wrecked, and great damage done.—Dec. Shock of an earthquake felt.—1825. The Marquis Palmella resides here for some time, previous to going to

London as Ambassador from Portugal.—April 5. The Union Steam Packet first started between this Port and Ryde. To celebrate the day, two hogsheads of beer were given to the watermen and others at Ryde Pier, and a like quantity at the Quebec Hotel, Portsmouth. At this period, plans are suggested for a Ship Canal from hence to London, at an estimated expense of 4,000,000*l.*

January 1826. Mr. Lane, the artist, most handsomely presented to the Literary and Philosophical Society of these towns, one of the happiest productions of his pencil, in a splendid portrait of Dr. John Porter, the first President of the Institution.—Died the Rev. George Cuthbert, chaplain to the King, &c. alderman of Portsmouth, and several times mayor of this his native place. Mr. Cuthbert was much advanced in years, and had for a long time been in a very debilitated state of health. In earlier life he possessed much taste and execution as an amateur artist, and several of his pictures, at times, adorned the exhibition of the Royal Academy. He lies interred in the chancel of St. Thomas' church.—Exhibition of paintings at the Portsmouth Institution.—There entered this port, in this year, 11,247 tons of British ships; 6856 tons Foreign.

1827. Sir W. Keppel appointed Governor of Portsmouth.—January 29. Four ships of war lying at Spithead, (including the Redwing sloop,) and three of them bore Admirals' flags, making four officers of that rank in command at the port, viz. Admiral Sir George Martin, Vice-Admirals Hon. C. E. Fleeming, Sir Edward Codrington, and Rear-Admiral Sir Thomas Hardy. Such a circumstance had not occurred during a century, if it ever did before.—February 27. The subscribers (at this port) to the Naval Annuitant Society present Lieutenant J. H. Davies, of the Royal Marines, with an elegant silver snuff-box, in testimony of their obligations to him for his active services as Secretary in this district. —August 8. A Russian squadron consisting of nine sail of the line, eight large frigates, and a corvette, arrived at Spithead.—November. His Royal Highness William Duke of Gloucester, appointed Governor of Portsmouth.—Maritime trial of the Experimental Squadron, for several months.

Of all the ships that e'er were built
To sail the ocean's brine, sir,
Throughout the fleet not one can beat
Our saucy Columbine, sir,
For she's so strong, so tight, so stiff,
And does the rest outshine, sir,
Huzza for him that laid the plan
Of the saucy Columbine, sir.

The Trinculo may do her best,
And the Alert, so fleet, sir,
Alert she is, but then she's not
Alert enough to beat, sir,
Our bonny bark at any time
Shall run her out of sight, sir,
And though we sail just like a witch,
We've lots of room to fight, sir.

We do not fear the Challenger,
The Sapphire, or the Tyne, sir,
The Wolf may growl, but fair or foul,
No beating Columbine, sir.
The Acorn, and the Satellite,
Their efforts too may try, sir,
But if they beat the Columbine,
Why damme, they must fly, sir.

1828.—It is probably not known to many of our ɪnsmen, that in the year 1768, the sum of 100*l.* in the South Sea Annuities, was left by will to the Poor :he Parish of Portsmouth, by William West, of West-am, in Kent. The trustees under the will are the ıister, Churchwardens, and Overseers of the poor for time being, and four inhabitants chosen by the pa-ıioners in vestry assembled. At a vestry held in the ve year, Mr. James Norris, Mr. Samuel Ballard, Mr. ıs Arnaud jun. and Mr. Thomas Bartlett, were chosen; survivor of whom, Mr. Elias Arnaud, (who is now ety years of age,) continues to receive the dividends, to distribute them to the poor (by proxy) on St. ɪmas's day, in every year.

:he various other incidents occurring between 1821 1828, will be found dispersed in different parts of the k.

Of the Villages &c. in the Environs of Portsmouth, it might have been expected that we should have spoken more at large; but, as it is well known that of the small villages of Southwick, or of Portchester, it were possible to write a volume, so rich are they in incidents of the "olden time," so fruitful of historic, literary, and ecclesiastical recollections,—we have the rather preferred to pass them over, than to give an account which to ourselves could but prove unsatisfactory, inasmuch as our present limits would not allow us to do them the justice they deserve: we shall, however, continue to add to the materials we already possess, and at some future period give them to the world under the title of

"THE ENVIRONS OF THE ISLAND OF PORTSEA."

FINIS.

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